Campus residence soon a reality?

College VP says it could be completed within a year

Students travelling far distances to Niagara College every day may be able to save time and energy by as early as next year if the college decides in favor of having residence at the Welland campus.

Hans van der Slagt, vice president administration, said the college has been approached by a developer interested in building a residence/motel at the Welland campus. He didn't name the developer.

If the college accepts the offer, the developer would lease the land on a long-term basis, constuct the building and manage it, and after a number of years, the building would revert back to the college, Mr. van der Slagt said.

He said the developer's idea for a residence/motel comes from the fact students would use the residence eight months of the year, and the building would be used as a motel for the remaining four months during tourist season.

The college would impose certain requirements, but the building would be privately built and privately managed for a few years, Mr. van der Slagt said.

The college is in the process of considering a call for proposal which would be an invitaton to the development community to put forth proposals, he said.

A draft for proposal which has been pulled together is being reviewed by the college board and, if accepted, may be sent out to developers within a month or two.

The developers and the college would have to negotiate a flexible agreement, he said, adding it is conceivable a structure could be built by Jan. 1, 1993.

The residence would accommodate about 250 students, Mr. van der Slagt said.

NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND
LEA
RESOURCE

NIAGARA NEWS

Published by the Journalism-Print Program, Niagara College, Welland, Ont.

Vol. 22, No. 7
Jan. 17, 1992
16 pages

Only 43 days 'til spring break

Commitment to customer service earned Niagara College faculty and support staff members certificates of achievement in a special ceremony held Dec. 6 in the Welland campus's Tecumseh Lounge. President John Saso, centre back, made the presentations and applauded the "new first for Niagara College." Mr. Saso said St. Clair and other Ontario colleges have asked for instruction on presenting the six-hour program to their staff and faculty. Pictured from left, Desmond McCurry, associate registrar who received a special award for his suggestion of providing new staff customer service orientation; Bette Ferguson, student services director and representing certificate recipients from A to Z, are Dale Zinatelli and Monique Armstrong.

Photo by Baron Bedesky

College staff receives certificates

On Dec. 6, 1991, 152 of Niagara College's support staff and administration received a certificate of completion of the Total Quality Management course.

Of the 152 to receive the certificate, 114 attended the wine and cheese reception in the Tecumseh Lounge.

The course was geared to help support staff and administration in their self improvement and education. It provided opportunities for all the campuses workers to improve their skills and to keep the staff and students happy.

Foster Zanutto, the college's director of planning and institutional develpment, said "Transformation within the workplace and positive change is everyone's business. Everyone in the college shares an interest in our success. To a large extent, our success will be judged by the quality of service and programs we provide to students and clients."

Inside the News

Saso says . . .

Niagara College president John Saso gives highlights from the upcoming release of the college's long awaited master plan. See page 2.

Going for gold

Meet Darren O'Neal , a Niagra College student who is pedalling his way towards the Olympian level in cycling. See page 14.

Save $$$

Crack open a cold one you brewed yourself. Niagara News explores the benefits of St. Catharines' "brew it yourself" beer facilities. See page 16.

'Exciting things' in 1992: John Saso

By MICHELLE SIEWERT
Staff Writer

"There are a lot of new and exciting things happening in '92," says Niagara College President John Saso regarding the college's scheduled changes and improvements to happen this year.

The most important item may be the release of a new master plan for the college. This plan, which is in its first phase, will outline new building proposals, including possible residence buildings on the Welland campus.

The master plan will mean better space and better facilities, Mr. Saso said. He said funding for phase one of the plan will come from selling some college assets. He is also hopeful the government will contribute financially.

"The plan will also address the St. Catharines campus," Mr. Saso said.

The master plan is to be released within the next two months, by which time the college is expected to have land options for the St. Catharines campus.

Among other "exciting things" is continuing education's high enrolment — up 25 per cent over last year. There are plans to expand the range of courses offered in Continuing Education, as well as offering courses in other areas in the Niagara Region.

The staff at Niagara College will also be experiencing changes Mr. Saso said, as there will be opportunities for some staff to move into different roles, if they wish. "This will give them a new perspective and an opportunity to grow," he said.

The Board of Governors has also experienced change with the addition of seven members, with two more to join in September. "We're very fortunate to have them," he said adding, "they're an excellent group."

Another happening at the college is the formation of an alumni association. Mr. Saso said he hopes the association will be an active one, in which every graduate will be part. As part of this endeavor, there is a homecoming planned for this fall to coincide with the college's 25th anniversary celebrations. "We're hoping for a huge turnout." he said.

Although the college faces the challenge of declining monies from the provincial government, the president is confident the college is ready for change. "Niagara College is a bright spot in a gloomy recessionary period. We're growing at a fast rate," he said.

"This is going to be a terrific year."

Snowstorm tests plan

Tuesday's snowstorm, which swept through most of southern Ontario, gave Niagara College personnel the opportunity to test their pre-planned college shutdown procedures.

At 12:30, the college had closed for the day with most students and staff heading home before weather conditions became more severe. Driving conditions were dangerous and roads icy due to the drastic drop in temperature, high winds and driving snow.

According to a memo circulated to all college staff members by Hans van der Slagt, vice-president administration, one day prior to the storm, the ultimate responsibility for closure of the school falls upon Mr. van der Slagt based on advice received from "designated managers" regarding weather conditions in their respective areas.

There are two designated managers for each campus location including Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland.

Ralph Mancuso, college custodian, cleans up the debris of broken glass after a student was pushed through a window near the Tecumseh Centre entrance last Friday. Looking on are Doug Matthews, college maintenance manager, left, and Tom Brooks, maintenance staff.

Photo by Jason Darrah

'They're lucky they weren't cut in half'

A Niagara College student was taken to Welland County General Hospital at 2:45 p.m., last Friday, for injuries she suffered after being pushed through a window near the main entrance to the Welland campus's Tecumseh Centre, across from the library.

Heather Vaughn, a college vocational student, received a laceration to the back of her leg, cutting partially into muscle. She had been play-wrestling outside the Tecumseh entrance, at approximately 1:45 p.m., with Ron Jones and Ken Deriviere, both college vocational students, and Sharon Hurd, a general college student, when she fell through the eight-foot tall window.

Julie Duncan, a general college student, who was sitting on the benches inside the window, suffered minor injuries from the glass falling onto her. She was released from the college's Health Centre shortly after observation.

"The four of them were joking around all day, and when they were outside I saw the guys shove her and she accidentally went through the window," said Ted Sourwine, a general college student who witnessed the mishap.

Doug Matthews, maintenance manager, who arrived at the scene within minutes, said "they're lucky they weren't cut in half."

College custodian Ralph Manusco was quick to clean up the broken glass and maintenance staff had a new window installed by late afternoon.

Blizzard essay contest

It's not every year we get a snow storm that is talked about for years to come as was the Blizzard of "77. Well, it's time to quit talkin' and get writing!

The 25th anniversary social committee is having an essay contest and is asking all Niagara College staff and faculty to share their funniest or most memorable stories of 1977.

All stories must be true and shouldn't exceed 350 words. Entries are to be submitted to JoAnne Miani, V11A, by Wednesday, Jan. 24 (deadline has been extended from Jan. 15 as indicated in the Dec. 6, 1991 issue of In Touch).

Fruit-ful raffle

Lieutenant Allen Brownhill, third from left, of the Salvation Army's Welland unit, accepted $218 raised in tickets sales for a first-ever fruit basket raffle by Niagara College's Vocational program students. Displaying some of the food the funds provided are from left, Amy Verwey, Frank Grano, Melda Main.

Contributed photo

Next 10-20 years?

College's master plan soon to be revealed

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

The final draft of the college's long-awaited master plan is complete. Setting a date for public viewing and naming several of the highlights were announced by college president John Saso at the Jan. 9 board of governors meeting.

The announcement came after an eight-month preparation of the plan by college vice-president academics David Schleich, his staff and a Toronto consulting firm. Mr. Saso said he and other college officials viewed the plan for the first time that day.

"We're very excited by what we saw," he said of the long-term outline detailing college requirements for the next 10 to 20 years.

The official unveiling is set for Feb. 11, so "the members of the college and the community can view the plan," Mr. Saso said.

"To improve upon it. . .we want input from (those affected)," he added.

The basic plan is "two-fold," Mr. Saso said, including a "master facilities plan" and a "master program plan." The long-term plan objectives he named included full-time student enrolment of 6,000 and part-time enrolment of 40,000 to 50,000 by the year 2000.

Implementation of parts of the plan hinge on acquisition of a site for the new St. Catharines campus.

"The college is still undecided on the new site," Mr. Saso said, adding the recent restructuring of the board of governors and the Jan. 9 committee elections requires "reappointment of the property committee," the college body responsible for choosing the new campus site.

The plan also calls for "the college to grow to all areas of the peninsula, and beyond," he said, "with more emphasis on international studies."

Calling the plan "well designed and drawn up," Mr. Saso pointed to the "hard work" of Mr. Schleich who initiated the plan's first draft and later hired Environmental Consulting Services of Toronto to continue the work.

Mr. Schleich said the master program plan includes details for organizing and restructuring the college programs and divisions as well as a human resources section to plan staffing needs. The property plan outlines locations and physical requirements needed for the new campus and restructuring of existing campuses.

Possible two months left for an Ontario Basic Skills class

The Ontario Basic Skills class, operating out of Tanguay Place in Welland, will survive a little longer, thanks to the federal government.

Nine severely physically disabled students who meet three times a week to learn basic literacy may continue classes at the residence as long as the funds last. Donna Putman, Ontario Basic Skills coordinator and counsellor, said the National Literacy Secretariate, which has funded the nine-month project, granted permission Dec. 15, just before the students' awards ceremony.

But the proposal to continue the pilot project remains unanswered. Jennifer Long, one of three Niagara College instructors involved, said they will probably learn what the future holds in a couple of months, which is about how long the leftover funds should last.

HEART AND STROKE FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO
IMPROVING YOUR ODDS AGAINST CANADA'S #1 KILLER.

BE A WINNER!
ON THE 25TH OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH
WEAR YOUR
ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRT

If you are seen wearing your 25th Anniversary t-shirt by one of the roving t-shirt spotters, you will win one of the chosen prizes.

GET WITH THE 25TH!

NIAGARA COLLEGE SINCE 1967 REGION OF NIAGARA OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

T-shirts are available for $10.50 in medium, large and x-large sizes at the Welland Campus bookstore only.

Raising money difficult for Sally Ann before Christmas

College staff's raffle helps out

Because raising money for Christmas operations of the Salvation Army was difficult in December, Major John Richardson was pleased to accept a $123 donation recently from Niagara College President John Saso.

The money was profit from a staff Christmas party raffle at the college Dec. 15.

Major Richardson, public relations director for the Niagara Region of the Salvation Army, said the college money was one bonus from "several unexpected sources" of donations for Christmas.

Major Richardson said the face of poverty in the Niagara Region is changing rapidly with the cost of living steadily surpassing family incomes. Hard economic times place greater demand on services such as the Salvation Army, he said.

"This year, more than ever, we're seeing a lot of working-poor. Many one-income families just can't make ends meet anymore."

Calling the party, which was held in the Black Walnut building cafeteria, a "morale boosting get-together for the staff and their families," Mr. Saso said it was "not only a success, but also a surprise."

"We planned (the party) for the children basically . . . I was surprised and happy to see so many grandchildren," he said. About 160 children were at the party along with parents and grandparents numbering about 350. All the children got gifts from Santa Claus, were entertained by a magician and had plenty to eat and drink.

Anne Rumble, executive secretary to vice-president of academics, David Schleich, said the $123 came from raffling donated items at the party, such as baked goods and crafts.

While there has been a similar, annual Christmas party for 15 years at the St. Catharines campus, Mr. Saso said the 1991 party, was the first for the Welland campus. "We plan to make it a yearly event," he said.

Near the end of the year with services in big demand but fundraising difficult for the Salvation Army, Niagara College helped out by donating Christmas party money. Major John Richardson accepts the gift from John Saso, Niagara College president, and Anne Rumble, executive secretary.

Photo by Doug Morton

Offer of 3.5 per cent on table

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

With a management offer of 3.5 per cent on the table, demands based on comparative salary remain the key for continued negotiations between Niagara College instructors (OPSEU local 242) and Ontario college management.

The 3.5 per cent combined salary benefit package, in a one-year deal: 5.6 per cent this year and 3.7 per cent next year, saying the figures match the Ontario government's projected inflation rate.

The 275 unionized instuctors, along with their counterparts at 22 Ontario colleges, have worked since Aug.31, 1991 without a contract.

College instructors are paid less than either high school and elementary teachers. Based on an agreement following the last contract settlement, an independent task force was set up to study the discrepancy.

The task force, led by Dr. William Marcotte, is now in a "fact-finding process," said Niagara College union president Joan Hastings-Dove.

"The report (fact finders) will be made public sometime near the end of January," Ms. Hastings-Dove said.

"Dr. Marcotte completed the study just before Christmas," she added.

The report's findings will be used to guide the parties in reaching an agreement at the bargaining table.

The report details a salary comparison between Ontario colleges and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto because of similarity of programming. Ryerson instuctors are paid about 10 per cent more while elementary and high school teachers receive almost 7 per cent more than college instructors.

Negotiations prior to December resulted in agreement on many non-monetary items including leave of absence for family-related matters, parental leave and liason between Ontario's English and French colleges.

Niagara College Students : The president wants to hear from you!!!

As you know, a President needs a lot of advice and I sure have had my share during my first year at Niagara College. However, new ideas on how to make things even better for our students are always appreciated. If you have suggestions on how to serve our students better, make things run smoother or just some comments on what changes for the better you would make if you were the President of Niagara, please jot them down in the space provided below and forward this sheet to the President's Office. I promise that all suggestions will be read and given consideration and that you will receive a response. In addition, $50 gift certificates for the Bookstore will be awarded to several students with the best ideas. No idea should be considered insignificant if it will improve the Niagara College environment in any way.

If I were President, I would _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

NAME: _____ (ANONYMOUS SUGGESTIONS ARE WELCOME)

ADDRESS: _____

PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE: _____

_____

_____

_____

No G.S.T. paid on Daytona trip

No G.S.T. will be levied on the cost of the Feb. 28 Daytona, Fla. excursion, as previously assumed.

People who will be participating in the trip are asked to contact Donna Flutur, Student Administrative Council manager, before submitting their certified cheques or money orders for their final instalment.

The total cost is $209, rather than the previously advertised $223.63.

Complete payment is due by Jan. 31, and people who haven't yet paid an initial instalment are still able to register.

Ms. Flutur's office is located in the Student Centre. Her telephone extension is 7660.

Editorials

Canadian unity factor

Political theatrics

Imagine it: a Canada where politicians are more interested in addressing the constitutional issues of the country than in performing antics that serve to ensure their continued publicity on the evening news.

Unfortunately, it doesn't seem probable.

However, it could be done.

Early last month, 12 average citizens, from all walks of life and from communities that span the nation — from Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia to Whitehouse, Northwest Territories — gathered together to discuss how Canada should prepare for the future.

The 12, brought together by Maclean's magazine included federalists, separatists and an aboriginal representative. For four days they examined the federal government's current constitutional proposal and described how its contents might impact the lives of all Canadians. They then saught consensus on accepting, modifying or rejecting the federal plan.

The result of the discussion on the constitutional proposal was an amended, detailed blueprint in which all 12 felt they could live with and produce a more firmly unified Canada.

In a letter to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, the 12 wrote they learned "in diversity lies our history and our strength. We should not apologize for our differences or debate them, but listen to one another, understand one another and build Canada together."

Perhaps it is time our politicians listened to average Canadians.

Politicians can learn a great deal from the example of how 12 diverse Canadians reached a consensus on our constitution.

Susan Eaton

New Year's resolution

Forecast of futility

Welcome to the New Year. The year of the New World Order according to United States President George Bush.

Order? The Soviet Union is dead. The failed coup in August led to the inevitable creation on New Year's Day of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

After 74 years of Communist rule, the promise of democracy reigns as the old republics face threats of economic and political failure. Price controls have been lifted, but the shelves remain bare. Long lineups are common and many prognosticators predict riots. Russian journalists reported the Deputy Defence Minister of President Yeltsin recently made a special trip to Germany to stock up on teargas. That's planning ahead.

Heads of the 12 states have been unable to discern how to control the massive nuclear arsenal of more than 27,000 warheads. Georgia, the only republic who didn't join, continues to fight a costly and bloody civil war.

In Croatia, about 6,000 people have been killed in fighting between the Serbs and the federal army since Croatia declared independence from the Yugoslav federation.

Meanwhile, in the good old US of A, army officials are trying to dispose of more than 50,000 chemical warheads. Those who created the weapons said they never considered how to destroy arms meant for use.

What time does the Doomsday Clock show right now? At the end of 1991 the hands were positioned at 11:32 p.m.; the farthest from nuclear midnight since the 1950s. That initial optimism died with the new year.

So much for January. The forecast looks bleak. Welcome to the new year.

Carolyn Mullin

Letters to the Editor

Red tape infuriates student waiting for President Saso

To the Editor:

I am writing you this letter to bring to your attention the gross injustice that has been inflicted upon me and my fellow peers. Currently, I am in the third year of a three-year human resources Management program at Niagara College. I have recently completed (Dec. 20, 1991) the eight-month co-operative segment of my studies and I will be returning to the College to complete the remainder of my program come January.

Problems

In late October, 1991 I received a notice from the college informing me that my tuition was due for the Winter Term '92. At first I had no problem with this but when I went to register for a night school course (management training) they informed me that I had to pay for this as well even though it is part of my regular schedule in the Winter Term. I asked why I had to pay for this course. The response was "You are not classed as a full-time registered student when you are on the Co-op segment of your studies". This is what I cannot accept. Why is it that I have to pay in October for classes I do not start till January of the following year, be on Co-op, and still not be classed as a full time student.

Nevertheless, I refused to pay the amount of my full tuition. I informed the school that I would pay the amount for the night school class on the condition that they either deduct the amount for the class from my full tuition or waive the amount so that it is collected with my regular tuition. (By the way, if I were to take a night school class during the Winter Term, I would not have to pay anything.) They informed me that this would be impossible because they were just following the "rules". Essentially this means that I have paid for the same course twice and only took it once. Now, does this make any sense to you? If you were me, what actions would you take? You must understand that it is the principal of this that bothers and frustrated me to no end. The cost is not the consideration, it is the fact that why should I have to pay for a course that is in my regular schedule, while I am on Co-op. This does not make any sense to me or any of the people I have told, including some of the faculty.

After reading the college's mission statement, I realized that I am a "paying customer" of the college. The college is providing a service (education) and I am a consumer of it. I am demanding satisfaction Mr. Saso and I leave this matter in your capable hands. Your immediate response would be appreciated so that it can be quickly resolved. Thank you.

Bryan S. Horne

Needs

Life is jeopardized

Dear Editor:

Christmas is the time of hope. In many parts of the world people hope simply for the most basic necessities of life; food, clothing and shelter. We at the Welland/Pelham and District Branch ask the citizens to consider helping the following areas services by the International Commission of Red Cross (I.C.R.C.).

Africa's needs are chronic. There is always some area or country in desperate need of help.

Bangladesh continues to need help as it desperately tries to cope with the damage from two cyclones.

The Philippine Islands have been severely damaged by a volcano eruption and a hurricane in recent weeks with thousands of injured and homeless.

Yugoslavia women, children and the elderly are caught in the crossfire of civil war.

Please be generous. Donations may be nade in person or by mail at 593 King Street, Welland, Ontario, L3B 3L3. Receipts for income tax purposes will be given for every donation. Call us at 734-4283 for further information.

Cheques should be made payable to the "Canadian Red Cross" and designate the area/country you wish to receive your donation- 100 per cent of it.

Hurting humanity needs your help. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely,
W. Gord Rivers

Niagara commended

Dear Editor:

The volunteer staff of Community Christmas Toys extend our heart-felt thanks to you for your interest and support this Christmas season.

Your efforts are instrumental in helping to bring a little joy to the children of our community and you are to be commended for your involvement.

Yours truly,
Community Christmas Toys
Executive

Letters welcomed

The Niagara News welcomes letters from readers. Letters to the editor should be kept brief and must include the writer's name, program and telephone number. Letters must be signed, pen names will not be accepted. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters, but will take every precaution to preserve the core of the writer's point of view or argument. Letters should be left at the newsroom of the Niagara News, Second floor, Simcoe Building by noon Wednesdays.

Vol. 22, No. 7
Jan. 17, 1992
16 pages

NIAGARA NEWS

Editor:
Susan Eaton

Assoc. Editor:
Carolyn Mullin

Larry Taylor, Publisher
Phyllis Barnatt, Managing Editor
Austin Jelbert, Associate Managing Editor

Eileen Muir, Advertising Manager
Fred Bridgeman, Photography Consultant

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College.

P.O. Box 1005, Woodlawn Road, Welland, Ontario L3B 5S2. Phone (416) 735-2211/ 688-1380/ 384-9760/ 382-2383

Focus

A family affair in health sciences

By MARILYN WALKINGTON
Staff Writer

Mother and daughters take health to heart

A person can really understand the doors that are open in health sciences when three people from the same family are enrolled in that very area at Niagara College.

Marjorie and Donnamarie Bilecki began the Dental Assistant program this year, and Karen, a graduate of the Ambulance and Emergency Care program, is now attending the Mack school of Nursing.

With shoulder length brown hair and hazel eyes, Marjorie, 44, the mother of the two and a son, said, "It seems to have gone full circle before (we all) came back to the (health field)." She wondered if chosen directions in life are inherited.

Comfortably dressed and relaxed, Marjorie said when she was younger she wanted to be a nurse. Donnamarie and Karen decided, on their own, to go into the health field. The fact that they all chose the same year was a coincidence.

While bartending at the Niagara-on-the-Lake's Anchorage Hotel, Marjorie developed the spirit and confidence that is so obvious now.

"If you want to do a man's job you have to be much better than a man. When you're second best you try even harder."

It must be in the blood for Marjorie Bilecki, left, mother of Donnamarie, and Karen (absent from the picture) to be involved in community-oriented programs such as Health Sciences at Niagara College. Marjorie and Donnamarie came back to college to beging the Dental Assistant program in September 1991 while Karen attends the Mack School of Nursing after graduating from the college's Ambulance and Emergency Care program last year.

Photo by Marilyn Walkington

Got moving

During her 18 years bartending-she quietly admitted to lying about her age when she was 18 so she could work at the bar-and having a family, Marjorie decided it was time "to do something with my life or get fat watching soap operas."

Resembling her mother's enthusiasm and look, but with short, blond hair, also dressed casually, Donnamarie, 26, said she graduated from Niagara's Hospitality and Tourism program after high school, worked in the field, then worked at a Toronto stock brokerage firm. But "the strain was too much, and it was time to reset my priorities."

Karen, 21, wearing jeans and her Niagara ambulance jacket, said she graduated from high school with a Business diploma, attended Niagara College for health science preparatory course for nursing and then for the Ambulance and Emergency Care course knowing it would serve as good experience for nursing.

Confidence

Marjorie said she was sure she wanted to go to college after going back to school to get her high school diploma. With an obvious sense of pride, she said, after receiving a staff scholarship from the Adult Learning centre in St. Catharines, she gained the confidence to continue her education.

She looked at the Dental Assistant program "knowing what I didn't want-shiftwork, heavy lifting," and felt this program gave her the flexibility and challenge she sought.

Wanting to work in a small area dealing with different things that avoid routine, Donnamarie said she finds the Dental Assistant program good for developing dexterity and hand-eye co-ordination. She debated going into nursing but the heavy stress, on-call schedule and the long hours steered her away.

Works out

Like mother, like daughter, but unlike her sister-Karen enjoys the physical and hands-on aspect of nursing emphasizing the importance of keeping in shape. She said so many nurses have to leave their profession due to back injuries because they don't realize how important it is to work out. The only problem she finds with nursing is the charting and small details.

"I wish I had done it earlier, but at least now I know I had the chance of being in the field," Marjorie said, "I didn't know before."

"It's a shock to the system to see the kids memorizing easily. I don't have the retention a young person has, so I have to keep teaching myself the same things over again," Without getting down she reminds herself that "It's hard to compete with someone half your age."

Marjorie and Donnamarie said they used to do homework together but Donnamarie said she finds "It is disheartening when (mom) expresses herself better than I can, she puts her ideas down clearer, and gets better marks."

Marjorie reassured her by reminding her that she can't compare the two different age groups. She said that sometimes the teachers don't help in erasing the feeling of competition, since they identify with someone closer to their age happy to give the older generation a chance.

Freedom

It is easy to see how the two sisters and mother could end up in the same field, let alone a field involving the care of the community. They all have a spirit and confidence that is evident in their freedom to share their experiences and the common energy among them.

"It really drives home the importance of the health sciences and its openness for women. There is a big upsurge of the traditional trade," Donnamarie wanted to emphasize.

After graduating from nursing, Karen would like to attend Brock to get her degree and/or work at a trauma centre in Toronto. After Donnamarie and Marjorie finish the Dental Assistant program next spring, they hope that the proposed Dental Hygiene program will have been instituted in which case the three will be able to graduate at the same time.

Marjorie said that her husband's joke and promise is that he is anticipating waiting with three bunches of long-stemmed roses in 1994.

Party for Mack mover

Niagara College staff and students of the Mack Nursing Education Centre in St. Catharines bid farewell to Peggy VanSchyndel last Monday, with a luncheon held in the centre's staff lounge.

Ms. VanSchyndel had worked as a steno-typist at the centre for the past eight years.

The event was catered by Nonna of Welland.

"We wish her well and she will be missed by all," said Donna Cunningham, director of nursing.

Although Ms. VanSchyndel is leaving the centre, she is staying within Niagara College. She will be going to the Access division, under the direction of Marti Jurmain.

Ms. VanSchyndel is also a part-time student at Niagara, taking a management course.

Non-traditional

New group meets to plan future

The Non-Traditional Students Association held the first meeting of the new term Jan. 9 to plan both social events and discuss future projects for the new group.

Baron Bedesky, a second-year journalism student, chaired the meeting of 13 members, some attending for the first time. He said the group now boasts a membership of more than 30.

The group can be defined as students who have not entered Niagara College immediately from high school.

Plans began for a dinner/social event to be held Friday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. in the Tecumseh Lounge at the Welland campus. Members are encouraged to bring a friend, spouse, or their children to the dinner. Group members will provide a buffet-style meal and wine and beer will be sold. Bill Beaudoin, social convener, is arranging for live entertainment.

Members interested in helping provide food are asked to contact one of the executive. Members are listed on the NTSA information board located outside the counselling offices.

Regular meetings will be held every other week, on alternating Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning next week with a meeting Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 12:30 p.m. in S203.

Window shattered

A cement brick was thrown through the back window of the Student Administrative Council office during the end of the Christmas break.

Theft was not the motive, because nothing was stolen from the office.

No one was present at the time the vandalism occurred. A security guard reported the damage on Jan. 3.

Damages have been estimated between $500 to $600 because two panes of glass were broken.

Letters to the Editor

Gardens growing

Dear Editor:

The students attending the Lanscape and Design program, funded by NITAC would like to thank you for the recent article in Niagara News Nov. 8, 1991. We would like to elaborate on the coverage.

The courtyard, now completed is only a small portion of the course. We invite everyone to view this magnificent project.

The course invloves all aspects of landscape design, from designing, constructing, a good solid knowledge of plant materials, including annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees and ornamental grasses. Care and maintenance of all related subjects. Soils, mathematics and of equal importance English communication skills. The fact that we are "pioneers" as mentioned by student Rick Moody, has been challenging to say the least. We have also found it very interesting and are hoping to get as much as possible from our experiences.

While most of us may never have entertained the idea of going to "college", learning is a never ending process and are thankful for the opportunity. With the current economic trend, unemployment is running rampant and as a result we were all laid-off or our employment was terminated recently. Hopefully, this will enable us to go back into the work-force with a good understanding of this trade.

Once again, we thank you for the interest in our course and we wish to thank NITAC and the Canada Employment Centre for this golden opportunity. Also Niagara College for taking us in and all teachers and support staff for their help and understanding.

Thank you,
James R. Corlis.

Helmets not 'cool'

Dear Editor

In response to the crash test dummies article, (Niagara News, Dec. 6, 1991) I have an eight-year-old son who – if he had not been wearing his cycling helmet two years ago – may not be here today.

The incident occurred on a cycling path in Toronto after my son lost control of his bike. The bike flipped in the air, hitting my son on the back of his head and then on his arm. The arm broke, but the head, thank God, did not.

The emergency staff at the hospital told me if my son had not been wearing his helmet he might have had serious head injuries or worse.

I realize it may be difficult to enforce young children to wear their helmets because it isn't "cool". I also realize in these economic times that not every family can afford to buy helmets for their children. However, if there was an education campaign launched by the local police departments or if helmets could be bought second-hand or even leased then maybe one less child in Canada would be a statistic.

Diana Harris
Journalism-Print

BULLPIT

Bush's brave new world to order

By MARK NESBITT
Staff Writer

Welcome one and all, to the New World Order.

George Bush's vision of worldwide peace and co-operation, first revealed about the time of the Gulf War, seems to be falling somewhat short of expectations.

An end to civil war in Angola is overshadowed by the Serb-Croation conflict. A treaty in El Salvador is signed, yet the news if full of fighting in the former soviet republic of Georgia. The Middle East is busy with peace talks, yet the various countries involved are re-arming and gearing up for future conflicts.

So what of the New World Order?

According to figures releasd by the United States Budget Committee, the standard of living of average Americans has dropped slightly in each year of Bush's presidency, the first such decline since the early 1960s. Mr. Bush is being openly criticized for his lack of leadership on economic issues, yet he continues to insist his travels abroad are in the interests of jobs for Americans.

The New World Order may not have room for a bankrupt superpower. But this being an election year, Mr. Bush would like us to believe he is both a strong and wise president whose primary interest is America.

Mr. Bush has yet to fully explain what he means when he speaks of this new era of world understanding. Is it possible he may be trying to divert attention away from his poor economic record by playing on the hopes of a generation that grew up knowing nothing but the constant threat of nuclear destruction?

The latest popularity polls show 51 per cent of Americans are not satisfied with Mr. Bush's performance as president, a crushing drop from his post-Gulf War rating. Trying to take credit for what seems to be an inevitable sequence of events is one way Mr. Bush can improve his image at home.

Yet the fighting goes on in Sri Lanka, in Northern Ireland, and in South Africa, heedless of any kind of order. And Mr. Bush has an economic interest in the continuation of hostilities around the world. One in five jobs in the U.S. is directly related to some kind of military or defence contracts, be they goods or services.

The Guatemalan government needs weapons to equip their armed forces. The guns will come from the U.S. When Iraq is allowed to rebuild its biological and conventional arsenal, they will depend on the same source they always have in the past, the U.S. When Irish Republican Army members need high explosives, America is the place to check first.

We are led to a conclusion that Mr. Bush desires world peace as much as he might look forward to a large, steaming plate of broccoli.

The New World Order is an attempt by a weaker leader to gain credibility from the sweat of others. And Mr. Bush is about to reach his credit limit.

Plan agreement with American schools

Articulation agreements between Niagara College and several American post-secondary institutions are in the planning stages.

The institutions being considered are Niagara University, Niagara County Community College and Erie County Community College.

David Schleich, Niagara College's vice-president of academics, said the agreements will fullfil three purposes: to share resources, to arrange articulation agreements in specific program areas such as Nursing, BRTV Film, Computer International Management and International Trade, and to develop a regional post-secondary education network to serve students in the Niagara Peninsula and Western New York. The latter purpose is especially important, said Mr. Schleich, because of "emerging continental free trade and global trade developments."

Niagara College has articulation agreements with the four school boards in the region. An agreement with the Lincoln County School Board is in the works.

The proposed agreements with Niagara University and Niagara County Community College focus on Hospitality and Tourism, Hotel and Restaurant Administration and Business and Commerce programs.

Niagara College officials will be meeting with Erie County Community College Jan. 15 for a formal signing of the general agreement. This agreement sets the groundwork for a specific partnership, Mr. Schleich said. "It's the beginning of the process."

A meeting with Niagara University officials will be held Feb. 10 at the college's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Fa'.s.

Brock University has been included in articulation agreement discussions; however, a formal agreement has not yet been set.

Registration for grads next Tuesday

Niagara College's Co-operative Educational and Career Services is offering a graduate registration session for students in their graduating semester.

The sign-up papers will be located across from the mini-cafe, at the Welland campus on Tuesday, Jan. 21, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

This service provides students the opportunity to leave their resumes with Janet Forfar at the Career Services and Continuing Education office. If help is needed to devise an impressive resume, students should not hesitate to come to the office and ask for help.

Mrs. Forfar will keep the resumes on file for a six month period to actively help the graduating student in the employment search. How the system works: employers contact the office which will search for and send out the resumes of those qualified for that employment. However, there is no screening done at the office. It is left to the employer.

"Students are asked to start their job hunt now as jobs are in great demand," said Mrs. Forfar.

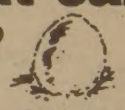
Mrs. Forfar will be travelling to the satellite campuses to inform them about the services offered and to set sign-up dates for the students at that particular campus.

"I would like to encourage graduating students to sign up and to let them know that this service does exist and is here for them," said Mrs. Forfar.

Seven-month-old Codi-Ann Lecompte enjoys her new toys at the 15th annual Christmas party at Niagara College's Wellandvale Campus on Dec. 15. The event is sponsored by the St. Catharines Student Senate for children of students enrolled in adult training programs.

Photo by Cathy Watt

What came first?

The egg?  **The duck?**

In some key places, Ducks Unlimited Canada and other conservationists have been coming first. For more than 50 years we've been building, improving and managing the wetlands and uplands where ducks can hatch and grow...areas that are essential to hundreds of other living things, including people. We've been in the forefront because we know what really must come first...

A Healthy Environment

Ducks Unlimited Canada

Join the leader in restoring waterfowl habitat. Call 1-800-665-DUCK

Daytona
is the place to
be this
Springbreak

for only $ 209 Total, who can afford Cancun?
The best Springbreak Destination is calling you!
Daytona Travellers,
Bon Voyage!

Call Mike
at
735-5643
to sign up for
Daytona

George's
NIGHT CLUB

Every Friday & Saturday
8 pm - 1 am

Dance to your favourites
from the 70's - 90's

SATURDAY - KARAOKE NIGHT

Be one of our Bahama Trip Winners!
One Every Saturday Night !!!

Appearing Live
Wednesday's
"LMT CONNECTION"

Drink
Specials

8 pm - 10 pm

Corner of HWY 58 & Pine St., Thorold
Lots of Free Parking

Seven new members on board

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

With the terms of five governors expired, including the former chairman David Bessey, and the resignation of two others last summer, new chairman Bernard Baril and president John Saso announced there are seven new members to the college Board of Governors, effective Jan. 1, 1992.

"The new people coming to the board should serve the college and the community well," Mr. Baril said.

"We're all very happy with the new governors chosen by the Council of Regents."

The Niagara College Board of Governors, as with all 23 Ontario college boards, is controlled by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. But the working guidelines they operate by, to unify the Ontario college system, is set down by another government branch, the Council of Regents.

Mr. Saso also welcomed the new members to the board.

"Their selection is important, not just to the college to fulfill a demanding position, but also to the community they represent," he said.

Of the 17 board members, 12 are appointed and represent the community-at-large; four are elected within the college and represent the students, faculty, administration and support staff; the college president sits as the final member. The 12 appointed members from the Niagara community represent specific segments of society such as business, education, law and health care.

The January meeting of the Niagara College Board of Governors went extra innings as seven new governors joined the team. From left to right are the members whose first three-year terms began Jan. 1: Sue Arnold, Dominic Caruso, Ian Hennessy, Verna Hill, Rick Bassett, Bette Ferguson, and Kathryn (Kit) Thompson.
Photo by Doug Morton

Both Mr. Baril and Mr. Saso praised the outgoing members for "devotion . . . willingness . . . and extraordinary service to the college and the community."

The new members are:

Sue Arnold, appointed, of St. Catharines, is an occupational health services consultant with the Victorian Order of Nurses.

Rick Bassett, appointed, of St. Catharines, is a partner with the accounting firm of Durward, Jones, Barkwell & Co. in Welland.

Domenic Caruso, elected, of Niagara Falls, is the Niagara College development officer elected to represent the college support staff.

Bette Ferguson, elected, of Fonthill, is the Niagara College director of student services elected to represent the college administrative staff.

Ian Hennessy, appointed, of St. Catharines, is the general superintendent of manufacturing at the engine division of General Motors, St. Catharines.

Verna Hill, appointed, of Fort Erie, is a teacher with the Buffalo Board of Education.

Kathryn (Kit) Thompson, appointed, of Niagara Falls, is a self-employed interior designer who is also a graduate of the Niagara College Interior Design program. College policy now requires one Niagara College graduate to sit on the board.

David Bessey, Donald Beard, Duncan MacDuff, Susan Murray and Ivar Noren, (now college registrar) are governors whose terms expired Dec. 31, 1991. **Ted Bates and Mary Anne Seppala** both resigned last summer.

Governors serve a maximum two terms of three years on the board.

Applied Arts Division defunct

Part of college's master plan

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

As part of a larger scheme, Niagara College will soon have a new division to replace the Applied Arts Division, called Media and Design Arts, David Schleich, vice-president academic, said at the Dec. 12 board meeting.

The change is part of the college's master plan for a major revamping of the overall college structure. The master plan, now being drawn up by the college and a Toronto consulting firm, became necessary to guide changes resulting from the proposed construction of an amalgamated St. Catharines campus.

"The plan will rearrange how our programs relate to one another," Mr. Schleich said, adding his announcement of Media and Design Arts as a replacement for the current Applied Arts is part of a "brick-by-brick process" to unveil the multiple changes expected with the building of a new campus.

The master plan "will unfold as a larger picture over the winter," Mr. Schleich said.

He would not elaborate specifically on the details of the program changes, or physical relocation of current college programs and divisions — changes needed to accommodate a new campus — but said the name change to Media and Design Arts could see the joining of forces of some programs in a specific "regrouping procedure".

Further announcements will be made soon, he said.

No decision has been made on a site for the new campus, a plan which was announced last April. "We are still looking at property," Mr. Schleich said.

Former board chairman David Bessey said the master plan is a total view of Niagara College over the next 20 years and hinges on the acquisition of property.

Ivar Noren, chairman of the property committee, said last October the college had narrowed the campus location to three St. Catharines sites, all exceeding 50 acres. A tentative opening date for the new campus is the fall of 1994.

Students utilize skills in hands-on training

They learn to draft. They study structural design. They train to manage a construction site.

Last week, students in the Construction Engineering Technician program practised another important aspect of their training — surveying — on the grounds of the Welland campus.

Third-year students prepared for a career in construction near the Simcoe Building, laying out a new corner for the building with the skill and accuracy required for an actual construction project.

"This is their final surveying project, designed to pull all their skills together," Glen Mount, program instructor, said.

As with all Niagara College programs, construction courses lean heavily towards hands-on training. Surveying for third-year students involves three hours a week: two hours a week for practice and one hour for theory, Mr. Mount said.

"They know what they're doing," Mr. Mount said. "All I did was give them the figures, and they did all the calculations."

Third-year direct entry student Mike Baccala said he came to Niagara from Mohawk College, explaining Mohawk only offered a two-year diploma course in the construction field he wants.

Niagara's Construction Technician program has plenty to offer, more, it seems, than other colleges of applied arts and technology.

College enrolment up; changes successful

By CAROL HUNT
Staff Writer

Enrolment at Niagara College is up 15.8 per cent from last year, totalling 4,056 full-time students and 210 day-time part-time students, according to the latest statistics.

Enrolment for returning students is up 14.8 per cent from last year although final figures are unavailable.

Ivar Noren, college registrar, attributes this increase to a couple of reasons.

"Most likely some of the focus on success activities such as faculty advisers, peer tutoring, and generally a greater follow-up on students having academic difficulties," he said. "The college is going through a change. We have had a rather significant change in senior administrators who have set new priorities, and I believe it's starting to have an effect."

Mr. Noren said the recession is contributing to the increased enrolment, especially with mature students who have found a need to further their education.

"In times like these, further education is very important to obtain jobs. In order to be competitive, students must stay in class and enhance their skills," he said.

At one time, people could have a Grade 10 education and still get a reasonable job. Eventually, this was raised to a Grade 12 level education, and now, it's no longer adequate to getting and keeping a good paying job.

"Now, a minimum education to secure a good position is a college education."

$8 million received by Niagara's students

Niagara College students received $8 million in grants and loans from the Ontario Student Assistance Program this year.

Processing activity is up by 55 per cent, said Elaine Spark, financial aid officer, the highest reported for the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. Sixty per cent of the student population applied for financial assistance, and the recession figures largely in the problem.

"Appeals are up due to students having difficulty getting summer employment and also "group A" students whose parents are affected by their employment status from previous years," Ms. Spark said.

In other words, original OSAP applications, filed based on the 1990 parental income, are being reassessed in 1991 due to changes in income through job or income loss. This will "pump up" the student's award.

Ms. Spark said there was an increase in the emergency fund draw of 70 per cent by October 1990. "There's an amazing increase," she said.

"Deliveries from the ministry are slow this year, and we often have to bridge finances until the OSAP award is received."

In other cases, students don't give themselves the required time needed for processing of a loan, and most advances are used to purchase books and supplies.

The college has $60,000 at its disposal for the emergency fund which constantly re-circulates.

"I've probably given out over $200,000 at this point," Ms. Spark said.

Some reassessing of the federal end of Canada Student Loans portion of OSAP is needed, she said.

Renovation started

Work has started on making Niagara College more accessible for the physically challenged visitor and student alike.

Two weeks ago, concrete ramps were installed in the main entrances of the Welland campus's Black Walnut Building and in the cafeteria exits. Currently, both the entrances are having automatic door openers installed. The openers are also being installed in the front, back entrances and exits of Hennepin Hall.

There will be several designated automatic doors in the college. All the preparatory work is done.

Skid safety tape was put on the stairs in the foyer near the library. The tape is black with bright yellow stripes to make it easier for visually impaired people to see. It has a rough surface to make the stairs non-skid. Work to make washrooms and the library more accessible will be continued later in 1992.

The architects for the work are MacDonald and Zuberac of St. Catharines. Construction is being done by James Brown Inc. of Stevensville.

Dance up a storm

The 25th Anniversary Social Planning Group will be organizing a Blizzard of '77 Dance. The dance takes place Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Niagara College Welland Campus cafeteria from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Contests include: funniest toque and scarf; funniest earmuffs; a lip sinc contest and trivia questions. DJ Russ Henry will supply the music. Tickets can be purchased for $7 at 25th anniversary locations at all campuses.

25 YEARS OF
XXV
EXCELLENCE

Tips to quit smoking

Butt out in the new year

By LISA WEISS
Staff Writer

As the New Year begins, so do new resolutions. Here are some tips for those of you who have decided to successfully quit smoking.

To begin, you must set a date in the future for your quit day. Choose a day of the week, preferably during which you smoke less to make it easier for you to handle.

In your first week, assign yourself several activities or places where you will not allow yourself to smoke. This could include your car, after exercising, or at a social event.

During the second week, keep a record of the cigarettes you smoke. Attach a piece of paper and a pencil to your pack of cigarettes and record the time, what you are doing, and how badly you desire the cigarette. This may become very embarrassing or annoying at times, but it can be very helpful in making you wait for a more convenient time to smoke, thus delaying one cigarette. At the end of the week examine your notes and learn about your smoking habits. You will clearly be able to see when you strongly desire cigarettes and those you smoke clearly out of habit.

During the last week before quitting, eliminate all the cigarettes that are the least important to you and one of the ones that are important to you.

On your quit day make sure you feel good about yourself and plan special activities during the day to keep you active. Dispose of any cigarette packs, ashtrays, and other smoking accessories, but most of all keep busy. Don't worry about up-coming days. Take each moment as it comes.

There are many coping tactics which can assist you in your effort to remain a non-smoker. Hang around with friends that don't smoke, avoid situations that would tempt you to smoke, buy new things with the money you would have spent on cigarettes, exercise or create an active lifestyle, and most of all keep busy.

Heart disease

One of the biggest worries about quitting smoking is the extra pounds you may gain. Cigarette smoking and obesity are both risk factors in coronary heart disease. Studies reveal how non-smokers tend to weigh more than smokers and those who stop smoking tend to gain weight. Aware of this factor, many people lose their motivation to quit.

Weight gain may be common, but it is not inevitable, and the health hazard is small compared to the hazard of smoking. Weight gain is usually not permanent as most smokers return to their original weight in time. Your increased appetite and food intake, with some effort, can be reduced. Mealtimes may become longer now because previously you rushed through meals to have a cigarette. Now you find yourself waiting for others and you may consume extra helpings. If you must eat more, eat low calorie vegetables or salads. If you don't want to eat more, slow down your consumption and drink more water at meal time.

Previously, you reached for a cigarette when you were bored. Now you will find youself reaching for food and nibbling — usually on sweets. If you must nibble, try fruit, vegetables, or sugarless gum. Or try to keep yourself busy so boredom never overcomes you.

Previously you had cigarette in the evening to relax. Now you find yourself replacing a cigarette with food. You can eat low energy foods, like apples or bread sticks. You can also design your three meals a day to include a later dinner.

Social activities that previously led to a large portion of cigarette smoking, now have you eating unnecessarily. If you are at a social event, try drinking instead of eating and remember alcohol can lead to a high amount of calorie intake. Stick to non-alcoholic beverages like tomato juice, soda water or fruit juice.

Feel proud of yourself. You took on the battle with the butt and won. You will increase your chances of a longer life, and now you can look forward to a new lifestyle because this is probably the time in your life when everyone will be proud of a quitter.

Take the Weedless Wednesday challenge

January is non-smoking month at Niagara College. It is a public health campaign highlighting the smoking issue with Wednesday, Jan. 22 designated as 'Weedless Wednesday.'

The purpose of the Weedless Wednesday Challenge is to put smokers in a personal contest to quit for one day. This entitles anyone who wants to try to become smoke-free, an opportunity to prove their capability of doing so. It's not only a social event for Niagara College, it's a personal challenge.

Pamphlets and booklets on how to quit are available throughout the college. This makes it more convenient for the "would be" quitter to obtain the information.

If you are interested in a program to help you quit smoking, here are a few agencies, their numbers and the cost.

Niagara Region Lung Association's program "Countdown." You can call (416)-735-3213 or (416)-384-9413. The cost is $95 for seven sessions in five weeks.

Panova Institute for Health Promotions Inc.'s program "Smokeless." You can call (416)-886-2909 or (519)-740-1529. The cost is $175 per person, which includes eight sessions in three weeks.

Seventh Day Adventist Church's program "Smoke Free." You can call (416)-358-9728 in Niagara Falls, or (416)-937-0914 in St. Catharines. The fee is minimal and includes seven consecutiv sessions and monthly meeting for one year.

Smoke Enders Canada's program "Smoke Enders." You can call (416)-374-7466. The cost is $545 per person, or $250 per person in workplace. It includes one session per week for six weeks.

SPRING BREAK '92
EARN FREE TRIPS and CASH!!!
CAMPUS REPS WANTED
TO PROMOTE THE #1 SPRING BREAK DESTINATIONS,
DAYTONA BEACH & CANCUN, MEXICO
CALL
1-800-563-8747

HEART AND STROKE FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO
Improving your odds against Canada's #1 killer
Your local Heart and Stroke *Foundation of Ontario chapter* has details on quitting.

Purrfect touch

The cat's meow: Adrianne Komar, 2½, had her face painted by Jamie Haley, 13, at Niagara College's first annual children's Christmas party held Dec. 15, 1991 in the main cafeteria at the Welland campus.

Photo by Diana Harris

Upcoming SAC events

Because of disappointing evening attendance last term at After Hours, the Student Administrative Council has scheduled several events for the afternoon entertainment in the campus bar.

Solo artist Mark Christopher of the local group Fab is playing Thursday, Jan. 23 at 3:30 p.m.

Future entertainment includes solo guitarist Mike Woods, on Jan. 30; comedian/musician Mark Labelle, on Feb. 11; returning comedian/guitarist Bob Lambert, on Feb. 19; and guitarist/vocalist Jimi Avon, on Feb. 27.

"We're going with solo acts for the time being because it's still trial and error with entertainment," said SAC/Student Centre manager Donna Flutur.

SAC has also planned a Superbowl Sunday party at After Hours for the Jan. 26 game. The $5 tickets, which must be purchased in advance, pay for a pizza and chicken wings buffet.

Holiday packages to Daytona, Fla. and Cancun, Mexico, are still being sold in the Student Centre, until Jan. 30. Bus travel and accommodation in Daytona cost $209 and $589 covers flight and accommodation in Cancun.

California DANCE BAR
Come and participate in our
Ms. Sexy bikini &
Mr. Hot buns contest.
On Friday, January 24,1992 from 9pm to 3am.
If Niagara Student I.D. is shown at the door admission if free before 11pm.
So come one, come all, and dance the night away to top 40 dance music and classic party rock.
Don't forget to bring your sexiest bikini and hottest buns to win cash prizes.
185 Bunting Rd. (at QEW)
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2M 3Y2
(416) 688-0404 (24 hrs.)

Community gains from program

College provides more than an education

By CINDY HARRIMAN
Staff Writer

Niagara College is not just an institution where people gain education prior to finding employment — it has a lot to offer those already in the workforce.

The Labor Studies Program, pioneered by Niagara College in 1968, consists of work-related courses aimed at unionized workers.

"The Labor Studies Program is geared to anybody from the shop floor to the office to the health care setting," said Sherri Rosen, co-ordinator Labor Studies program.

People often take courses to learn more about the union and get involved in union activities, she said.

The Labor Studies Program differs from other Continuing Education courses because it is more work-related, whereas Continuing Education offers more individual interest courses, she said.

"(The Labor Studies Program) is a recognized college program," Ms. Rosen said, adding people can pursue a Labor Studies Certificate.

The certificate can be achieved by participating in approved activities (courses, seminars, workshops, independent study, research, work and life experience) whose combined hours equal a minimum of 240.

The certificate would not qualify a person to be an office manager, it mainly says the person is a union activist, Ms. Rosen said.

"It's more for empowerment than job mobility."

People who receive the certificate often benefit the community by spending many hours working for unions, she said.

Some of the courses offered for the winter term are occupational health and safety, construction health and safety, union counselling, collective bargaining, and development of trade unions in Canada.

"At the moment, people are very interested in health and safety," Ms. Rosen said. There have been recent changes in health and safety laws so there will be new requirements for employers and employees, she said.

"We generally try to pick the courses the Labor Studies Advisory Committee feels will meet the needs of the community."

Courses start at various times, mainly in February, and are offered at the Welland and St. Catharines campuses.

The Labor Studies Program is in its seventh year of co-sponsoring the annual forum with the Niagara Employee Assistance Program Council.

Ms. Rosen said this event, which is geared to health care workers, union activists, and union councillors, has proven "very successful."

Fees for courses in the Labor Studies program are paid by the individual person, or the unions, and labor councils involved.

Registration has been fairly consistent to date for the winter term, Ms. Rosen said.

She said she doesn't think there will be an increase in registration over last year which had almost 900 students enrolled over the course of the year in 55 sections.

"We're seing a lot more people out of work and obviously that is going to affect this program because people come here via their unions."

Welland's new mayor Dick Reuter talks about the relationship he wants to forge between the city and Niagara College.
Photo by Jason Darrah

Welland mayor wants strong ties with college

By JASON DARRAH
Staff Writer

Welland's new mayor, Dick Reuter, wants to establish a strong, productive relationship with Niagara College.

As an election candidate, running against five others, Reuter was first to stress the importance of enhancing the city's relationship with the college. As the Mayor, he reiterates that such a relationship coincides with his main drive: stimulating Welland's economy and job market.

"I'd like to see Welland utilize the college in every aspect," said Mayor Reuter, emphasizing that as well as being one of the largest employers in Welland, the college is a source of expertise which existing industry can tap into, and which may help lure more business to Welland.

He continued, "we have a highly trained community but I don't think we've marketed ourselves as such in the past," adding "the media has tagged Welland as a blue collar town... I take exception to that, we have skilled technicians in the industrial plants... we have the Canadian Tire Acceptance, the hospital, the college, and many other similar industries which are not at all blue collar employers."

Mayor Reuter said he understands students are worried about jobs once they finish college, and believes the city must attempt to help secure jobs in Welland for many of them. "There are over 1,200 businesses in Welland, and if we encourage just half of them to increase by only one or two people, we've got approximately 600 to 900 new jobs, over the next year," said Mayor Reuter.

The partnership Mayor Reuter has in mind is two-way. Beyond utilizing the benefits of a skilled population, he wants to establish a link between the business community and the college with the city as an intermediary. He says that a closer relationship will better inform the college of business' demands. "It can't hurt for the city to work with the college to determine what jobs are needed and how best to train for them."

"If (the city's) role as an intermediary is successful, we can bring the local business, the municipality and even the region together with the college to work on projects," said Mayor Reuter. He referred to the possibility of advanced co-operative research and development in the area of waste management.

"I ran for this office because I was deeply concerned for the job potentials in Welland . . . my goal is to turn Welland around."

New dental program

By MARILYN WALKINGTON
Staff Writer

In conjunction with Niagara South Board of Education and Eastdale Secondary School in Welland, Niagara College will begin its Dental Office Administration program on Feb. 3 for students coming back to the work force.

"It's been in the works for two to three years," Billie Atkinson, Dental co-ordinator, said. "There is a demand for front desk people" by dentists and they seem to be "looking for more mature people."

Twenty-five students have been attending Eastdale Secondary School since Sept. 16 for a 20-week program to upgrade to a grade 12 diploma. Once completed, and following interviews, the students will begin a 26-week program at Niagara College in Welland, Ms. Atkinson said.

According to the Niagara Peninsula Industry Education Council's articulation agreement, the program allows for 25 participants who meet the criteria for project training, 60 per cent or 15 social assistance recipients and 40 per cent or 10 unemployment insurance recipients.

Dorothy Clarkson, 46, one student working through the co-op section of the program in the college's dental clinic, started Nov. 3 fro three days a week. "It's a total career move for me. (I was) an hydraulic press operator for 14 years, the factory closed and a friend informed me (of the program). I knew I couldn't go back to the factory," Ms. Clarkson said.

Some students are fulfilling their co-op at dental offices, while others are helping in the school's dental office, from a minimum of 14 hours to a maximum of 24 hours. Some students work every morning, others three days a week.

"There isn't sufficient work here, so each student has a turn in different places including other offices within the college," Ms. Clarkson said. The oldest student is in her early 50s and the youngest is in her early 20s.

Ms. Clarkson finds "coming back to school a challenge (since my) last experience with a typewriter is 27 years ago."

By March, the students are "on their own" with help from contacts made through the college to find jobs in the field. "I think it will work out quite nicely," Ms. Atkinson said.

Ferguson retires

Andy Ferguson, business division director and a 24-year faculty member, announced his December 1992 retirement from Niagara College at the College Planning Team meeting held Dec. 4, 1991.

David Schleich, vice-president academics, is looking for a replacement.

If a replacement is in by June, Mr. Ferguson will spend the Summer/Fall 1992 period working with John Saso, college president, on special projects.

Check prices on Canadian side

By CAROL HUNT
Staff Writer

In an effort to reduce cross-border shopping, the Ontario government is supporting a peninsula-wide blitz aimed at Canadian consumers.

The Niagara Border Zone Advisory Committee in conjunction with the Ontario Ministry of Industry, Trade and Technology have initiated a $400,000 campaign in hopes of educating Canadian shoppers to the fallacy that everything is cheaper in the United States.

Tony Commisso, chairman of Shop Ontario, a Niagara-wide consumers group, said in *Borderline*, the newsletter of Shop Ontario, "We're asking Canadian shoppers to check prices on this side of the border instead of automatically going to the States. We know they'll find good value, quality and service right at home."

The community effort will include support from Niagara's newspapers, radio stations, and an outdoor advertising company to the tune of $130,000 through services rendered.

A series of full-page advertisements in newspapers and numerous radio spots promoting consumer awareness began Jan. 4.

Along with the advertising campaign, Shop Can, a consumer information hotline, has been set up. Consumers can phone a toll-free number and hear professionally recorded advertising messages from many regional retailers. Consumers will be apprised of competitive pricing, and top-notch services available in the Niagara peninsula through this program without having the expense and inconvenience of flyers and paper advertising.

Julius Banfai, marketing director for Regional Niagara Computer Services (the company behind this initiative) said, "Conceptualize, if you will, reverse radio — the consumer targets the advertiser."

For more information on Shop Can or Shop Ontario, call Mr. Banfai at (416) 374-6364 or Mr. Commisso at (416) 688-2112.

Improve your environment

The Environmental Youth Corps (EVC) program gives young people between the ages of 15 and 24 an opportunity to work on projects that contribute to improving the environment in their own communities.

The program began in 1988. Since then, 11,000 young people have been hired by public sector and non-profit organizations to work on environmentally focused jobs. The Government of Ontario through the Ministries of Agriculture and Food, Environment, Natural Resources, Northern Development and Mines and Tourism and Recreation provide the fundraising for these positions.

The EVC program gives youth who are interested the opportunity to earn money and gain experience in the types of jobs they are interested in. Most of the jobs occur in the summer, but there are year-round positions available.

Types of jobs available are:

- Developing waste reduction education programs that promote the 3R's (reduce, reuse, recycle).
- Establishing methods to raise awareness and educate communities on local environmental and resource management issues.
- Producing environmentally focused publications, radio broadcasts and television documentaries.
- Conducting laboratory research in argricultural technologies.

There is a minimum of 30 hours of work per week to a maximum of 40 hours per week.

Students who wish to apply to the EVC program may do so by picking up an application in April from the Canada Employment Centre for Students, the campus placement centre, or your MPP's office.

Math Anxiety Overcoming a paralysing fear

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

'Think of math as a pyramid. If blocks are missing at the bottom of the pyramid, it affects the whole structure.'

Bridgette Chiki

For many years I suffered from a paralysing fear; a fear I kept shrouded — in shame. My face went blank when I heard the dreaded words: figure out the percentage of your mark, or what amount do you owe on the restaurant bill?

Fortunately for me I received help, two years ago, in accepting and overcoming my math anxiety, but it took a lot of hard work. I had to go back to basic arithmetic, and for five months I could not use a calculator. Surprisingly, I found myself understanding and enjoying algebra and word problems for the first time ever. It was a relief because for years I could not understand why I did well in other subjects, but not in math.

During the past week I spoke to several Niagara College students about their math anxieties.

Fran Surgeoner, 22, a first-year general college student, said he always felt he was "bad in math". "I am not looking forward to doing math in my general college course," he said.

Dale Caldwell, 39, a second-year computer program student, took an Ontario Basic Skills refresher math course prior to her first term. "However, I feel I struggled harder and spent more time doing my math homework than younger students," she said. "My math marks in high school were not high, but I find that I apply myself more now."

Although Ms. Caldwell's math marks were in the 80s, she said she suffers from text anxiety. She copes with her anxiety by listening to classical music when she studies. She does not discuss an upcoming test with her fellow students, and during the test, she wears earplugs.

In addition to students at Niagara College, I spoke to the teaching and counselling staff at the college, and the co-ordinator of the counselling department at Brock University. Through them I learned of the different groups of math anxiety sufferers. The female student who did well in math until she reached Grade 10 or 11, but fell victim to peer pressure: "girls should not be as bright as boys or not as bright as their boyfriends", or girls exposed to the conscious or unconscious pressure of male instructors who believed girls could not do math.

Joan McCurdy Myers, co-director of Brock counselling centre, said teachers of the Niagara Region's Federation of Women Teachers and the University Women's Club developed a kit designed to help high school girls taking math. The kit is available throughout the province and across Canada.

Also included as math anxiety sufferers are the male students conditioned through societal norms to believe math is a "macho thing"; that is, to believe all men can do math.

"I used to think math anxiety was more among female than male students," said Maura Dugas, technology math co-ordinator, "but I found the male students just as apprehensive . . . I have to drag it out of them."

The returning older students, (and I am one of them) also suffer from math anxiety. Some students never did well in high school math resulting in math avoidance over the years. Some older students now panic at the idea of doing math or worse — a test.

"Older students have more of a general anxiety over study . . . they set higher standards and tend to worry more over the 20 per cent they don't know if they obtain an 80," said Mrs. Dugas.

There is, however, help available for students at Niagara College. Counsellor Bridgette Chiki suggests first-year students take the Math with Confidence seminar during the Start Right Week, held a week prior to first term. "Some students were so terrified of math, they avoided the seminar because they thought they would have to do math," she said.

Ms. Chiki said there is no such thing as a math mind; if you do well in other subjects, you can do well in math. She suggests students spend 1½ hours studying to every hour spent in class. Before coming to the counselling office, a student should first approach their instructor. For help with a specific problem in math, students can use the services of peer counselling. Older students, she said may purchase the book Mathematics Made Simple from the Welland campus bookstore.

"There is no occupation free of math . . . math is part of 75 per cent of college and university courses," said Ms. Chiki. "Math is not a short-cut subject . . . it is accumulative. Think of math as a pyramid. If blocks are missing at the bottom of the pyramid, it affects the whole structure."

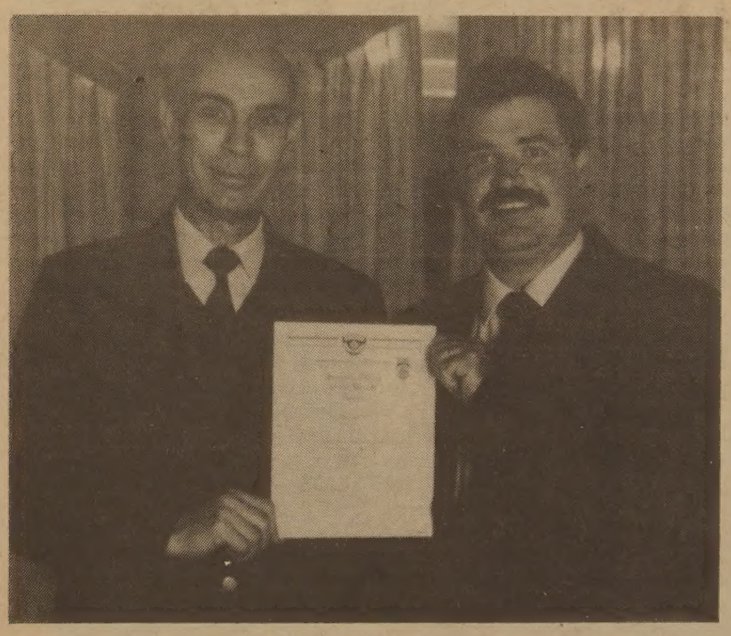
Ms. Dugas said her secret to her students doing well in math and overcoming their anxieties is to make personal contact with the students. "I encourage students to ask questions . . . I try not to make a student feel bad in class. Math is no longer a problem when it is out in the open and a student is dealing with it (math)."

Pat Cicci, peer tutor co-ordinator, said the first term of this academic year was the busiest of the four years she has worked at the college. "At least 50 per cent of the requests for tutoring were for math. Also, there were more mature students seeking help because they had not done math for awhile," she said.

An increase from last year in the number of requests for math videos was noted by Dale Zinatelli, library technician. "About half the requests seem to be for pre-algebra math . . . the basics," she said.

I found out through personal experience that math anxiety can be overcome, but first it must be brought out from under the shroud of shame and acknowledged.

College security guard honored



Peter Hawkins, left, Barnes Security officer at Niagara College, accepts the award from John Rankin, branch manager, Barnes Security, for Security Officer of the Month.
Contributed photo

Peter Hawkins personifies security at Niagara College.

Mr. Hawkins is a Barnes security guard and the day security officer at the college. Students can see him walking around the parking areas writing tickets and patrolling the halls inside the campus.

On Dec. 11, Mr. Hawkins was awarded the Barnes Security Officer of the Month by John Rankin, branch manager, Barnes Security. This award is presented each month to a different security guard. The guard is chosen on the recommendation of Barnes' clients.

Mr. Hawkins knew nothing about the award.

"It makes you feel good to be recognized for what you do," he said.

In the near future, a cellular phone Mr. Hawkins carries around with him will be replaced by a radio. If students wish to contact the security guard, they must dial zero and the operator will contact Mr. Hawkins.

New tech director well qualified

By SHERI HAMILTON
Staff Writer

Brian Moukperian is the latest addition to the Niagara College staff, and the Ventures division. Mr. Moukperian has been appointed to the position of director, technical skills training.

Mr. Moukperian is well qualified for this position. He has held positions in St. Catharines as an industrial training consultant, and in Toronto as a provincial trades updating co-ordinator. His most recent position was in Hamilton as assistant manager, apprenticeship and client services branch. There he worked with staff to develop new apprenticeship programs at Dofasco, Stelco and Stelpipe.

Mr. Moukperian is a graduate of McMaster University, Queen's University and Brock University.

He will be in charge of trades updating, technicians and technologists updating, automotive welding, machine shop, toolmaking, industrial mechanic and women's access to apprenticeship.

"We have just started a 20-week carpentry course for women, which is funded by the Canadian Construction Association and Ministry of Skills Development. On Nov.4, we also started a 40-week Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic program funded by NITAC," he said.

"We are also starting a basic auto body apprenticeship course on March 2, 1992 in Welland. Additional classes will be held later in 1992 and 1993. In September, we are planning to offer three new automotive programs; brake and alignment, transmission mechanic and motor vehicle mechanic. These will be offered in a day release format."

Plans are being developed for three more new apprenticeship programs in 1993. These include automotive painter, diesel endorsement and common core motor vehicle mechanic.

New trades updating courses are being offered, including: roof framing, stair building, diesel fuel injection, fibre optics and fire alarm installation.

SPRINGBREAK '92
$50 Deposit — Daytona — $159 tax / service charge extra
Your trip will include :
* 8 days / 7 nights Accommodations
* Via Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
* Pool / Welcome Parties
* Discount Wristbands (save $ at bars / food)
* Full-time STS Staff
Call Mike at 735-5643
STS Guarantees the Best Prices!!

IF YOU HAVE THE ENERGY, SHELL HAS THE RESOURCES.

Perhaps you want to clean up your local river bank. Or set up a recycling program in your community. If you've got an environmental project in mind, Shell wants to help! We've set up the Shell Environmental Fund to help Canadians transform their ideas into action. For more information, call the Shell Helps Centre at 1-800-661-1600.

Shell helps!

Jeanette Scott, owner of Scott's Main Street Emporium in Welland, takes a break in her tearoom with a relaxing cup of tea. Ms. Scott recently celebrated the teachop's first anniversary.
Photo by Diana Harris

Tea for two

Teashop celebrates first anniversary

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

A relaxing cup of tea in a room filled with antiques, old books and paintings sets the mood at Scott's Main Street Emporium in Welland. Owner Jeanette Scott celebrated her teashop's first anniversary Nov. 9 with the then future mayor of Welland, Dick Reuter, on hand for the celebration. Sandwiches, beverages and a large cake were served to Ms. Scott's regular customers who came by to congratulate her.

Over the years, Ms. Scott, a single parent with two adult daughters, worked as loan officer for the Scotia Bank in Welland. "Banks are regimented and I wanted a job that allowed me to be creative."

One of Ms. Scott's daughters, Rachel, 20, a general college student at Niagara College, remembers one morning at six o'clock "when my mother came into my room and told me she had decided to open a store."

"I woke up one morning with the knowledge I was going to be an entrepreneur," said Ms. Scott.

"In the beginning, business people doubted the success of the store because of the recession," said Rachel, "but the support of my mother's family and friends has seen her through . . . She is a strong person, I thought it was a brave thing for her to do."

Ms. Scott returned to school as a mature student in 1983, and attended Brock University with the intention of becoming a music teacher. However, because she likes to write, she also took English and thought she would teach both subjects. She changed her mind because "teaching would still mean having to bow to somebody else and I really wanted to stand on my own and have my own business."

In addition to university courses, Ms. Scott took motivational and sales courses and finds them very beneficial to her now.

Funding for the store was difficult and Ms. Scott met with some resistance because she is a woman. "I searched high and low for money, but people don't have as much faith in women as they do men."

The tea shop has a selection of fresh foods, mostly vegetarian (no meat, but egg, dairy and fish products). "Vegetarian food is an alternative for people in downtown Welland. Meals are less expensive if meat is not served," said Ms. Scott.

A selection of homemade soups, salads, sandwiches, pastries, beverages and, of course, hot scones with jam and cream is served in the teashop.

Jennifer, 21, a rhetoric and writing co-op student at Waterloo University, worked at her mother's store for four months as part of a co-op placement writing the teashop newsletter and promotional flyers. "Jennifer said the store is a reflection of me," said Ms. Scott.

In keeping with her environmental ethics, Ms. Scott developed a mandate to sell recycled or reused products in her store. "The antiques and used books are a quality way to recycle," she said.

Another feature of the teashop are the varied paintings, drawings and crafts done by local artists. "These are the products of cottage industries. Some of these artists and crafts people stay at home or they are retired," said Ms. Scott.

A cup of tea, herbal or otherwise, may be enjoyed in a smoke-free atmosphere accessible to people in wheelchairs as well. Another two mandates of Ms. Scott's Main Street Emporium.

50 years and going strong

The Niagara Peninsula Electrical Maintenance Assoc. held their monthly meeting, for the first time, on the Niagara College Welland campus in the Tecumseh lounge Nov. 28. The association is celebrating its 50th year of existence.

Dr. Gordon Chen, an instructor of electrical technology at the college, said a guest industrial speaker is invited monthly to keep association members up to date with recent technological advancement.

"Niagara College welcomes the opportunity to bring the college and industry together, this will benefit both the association and the college," Dr. Chen said.

Rick Burbadge, automation specialist, gave a presentation for Square D Canada headquarters located in Toronto. Square D manufactures electrical products for industrial and commercial clients.

"Having a kind of open forum that this environment presents, you can exchange a lot of ideas and everybody can help each other out."

Mr. Burbadge said the facilities Niagara College offered for the meeting were quite impressive and comfortable which allowed for easy interaction with the association's members.

The Tecumseh lounge will be a regular meeting area for the Niagara Peninsula Electrical Maintenance Assoc.

CANCER INFORMATION SERVICE
CALL
1-800-263-6718

RACK AND ROLL BILLIARDS
20 % OFF.
Student I.D. Required
Men's and Women's Leagues
Satellite T. V.
Tournaments
Snack Bar
Open from 11A.M. Daily (7 days aweek)
545 Niagara St., Welland
(416) 732 - 6446

College proposes 16 new training programs

$1.5 - million in unemployment insurance retraining funds involved

By CINDY HARRIMAN
Staff Writer

Niagara College has applied for 16 programs involving $1.5-million in unemployment insurance retraining funds.

The federal government has a Labor Force Development Strategy with which they "want to shift some of their training dollars to better serve the people (of the community)," said Dan Patterson, Niagara College's vice-president of Ventures.

The government is concerned with "equipping these people with the necessary skills" so that they will be employable, Mr. Patterson said.

Ventures is in a partnership with the Canada Employment Insurance Commission, which deals with unemployment insurance claimants. "(This partnership) gets to the meat of what I think a college system should be all about," Mr. Patterson said.

He said Niagara College is trying to shift activities, such as training for unemployed adults, to better serve the community.

"We're trying to respond to some of the downside issues."

Mr. Patterson said the college has a role to provide people with knowledge and skills so they can find employment.

The potential training programs vary from Upgrading for Immigrant Engineers, designed for engineers who have come from other countries, to Women into Trades and Technology, designed to encourage more women to enter the technical fields.

Other proposed programs include Modular Hospitality Training, Robotics, Floral Design, and Health Care Aide program.

Mr. Patterson said the college "puts together people to design and implement these training programs" with importance placed on "quality training linked to the real needs of these individuals."

He said people have been "traditionally nervous about going back to school" so special instructors are required to make students feel comfortable.

"We feel very confident that a number of (the programs) will be funded," he said. Two have tentatively been approved while the others are in ongoing negotiations.

Mr. Patterson said the college has worked very hard on the programs for the last few months. "I'm hoping this will really materialize."

Funding approval for Niagara College depends on competing submissions from other institutions, such as the YMCA, the Toronto School of Business and other private sector trainers which may apply for programs.

Mr. Patterson said he hopes a lot of the programs will be approved. "We really want to demonstrate that we can do the job."

The funds are for this fiscal year. Mr. Patterson said he expects a decision within six weeks.

Please give
CANCER CAN BE BEATEN
CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY | SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DU CANCER

Special 25th anniversary publication

A new Niagara College employee arrived just in time to make a major contribution to the college's 25th anniversary.

Lyn Russo, director of marketing and communications, "has struck an agreement with Rannie Publications to publish a special 25th anniversary edition for the college," Dan Patterson, vice-president of Ventures, said at the Dec. 12 board meeting.

Mrs. Russo, a graduate of the Journalism-Print program of Niagara College, began her new job in November. She said the tabloid edition will reflect the first 25 years of growth at Niagara College using material supplied by the college.

Best of all "the paper will be printed at no cost to the college," she said, explaining it will consist of "50 per cent advertising and 50 per cent photographs and editorial material," the latter (25th anniversary material) supplied by the college. The advertising will pay for the publication, she said.

"Rannie Publications will supply the advertising, production, and distribution," and have agreed that 50 per cent of the advertising revenue will be turned back to the college where it will go to the Niagara College Foundation.

With an April 5 open house at the college slated as the offical celebration for the 25th anniversary, Mrs. Russo said 129,000 copies of the special edition will be distributed one week before the big day. The edition will appear as an insert within seven of Rannie's Niagara region publications: four weekly newspapers and three advertising weeklies.

The seven newspapers chosen to distribute the special college edition "cover the entire region of Niagara equally," she said, ensuring most residents the chance to receive a copy.

Mrs. Russo worked for three years for the Welland Tribune before coming back to Niagara College.

Final meeting for '91

The final meeting of the Niagara College Board of Governors for 1991 included discussion on a number of issues. The meeting was held in the boardroom in Hennepin Hall Dec. 12 with Bernard Baril as chairman.

In his first act as chairman, Mr. Baril announced a **major turnover of board members**. Because the terms of five current governors expired Dec. 31 and two governors resigned during the summer, Mr. Baril announced the appointment of seven new governors.

If student loan applications are any indication of the tough economic times in the Niagara region, it's a bad time according to statistics. Administrative vice-president Hans van der Slagt said at the board meeting Niagara College OSAP applications are up a record 55 per cent, the highest in the western region of Ontario's colleges and universities.

President John Saso said an unnamed land developer has approached the college with a proposal to build a 200 to 300 unit **student residence** on or near the Welland campus that could be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1993. Mr. Saso said the proposal includes a suggestion the residence be used for a motel in the summer months.

Student life vice-president Carol Boettcher said she wants the board to view one of the **college video productions** currently being aired on Cable 10 Monday nights. She hopes to show one of the productions, which she described as "first rate", at an upcoming board meeting. The "college life" productions are produced by the Niagara College Broadcast, Radio and Television and Film program in conjunction with the Journalism-Print program.

John Saso will help train newly appointed presidents and vice-presidents for North American colleges next year, he said, after announcing his appointment to the California-based League of Innovation, a body of academic executives who pass on their expertise and experience to new college executives.

In view of the large number of **plant closures** in southern Ontario, Dan Patterson, vice-president of Ventures, said "the college should play a strong role to help those individuals to adjust," referring to the college's work with the Ontario Skills Development Office to assist workers who are laid off.

Many students are approaching the **new health services** at Niagara College for a variety of health problems, Ms. Boettcher said. "It's up and running as a useful service . . . extended now to all campuses." However, she added, the counselling office had "a real increase in clients" who came forth with "stress related problems" during November and early December.

"No stone will be left unturned in dealing with this problem," Mr. Saso said, describing the work of a special task force formed recently to deal with campus violence. Mr. Saso and two others, representing Humber College and Sheridan College, make up the task force.

Versa Foods is working with Niagara College to restructure the college cafeterias and the food services following a record year of food sales, Mr. Saso said.

President Saso said his recent work with Ontario government agencies who control colleges and universities has helped establish a new body, **The Employers Association**, to replace the Council of Regents as the collective bargaining unit. They will negotiate with the Ontario Public Service Employees Union after current contract negotiations are settled.

Academics vice-president David Schleich said the college's Outreach Program to attract **international students** has brought about 50 new students to the college this year. He added the goal is a total enrolment by international students amounting to five per cent of the overall student body.

Lyn Russo, director of marketing and communications, arranged for a special Niagara College **25th anniversary newspaper** to be printed without charge to the college by an area publisher. Mrs. Russo said 129,000 copies of the paper will include photographs and editorial stories supplied by Niagara College. Rannie Publications of Beamsville will provide the advertising, production and distribution, with 50 per cent of their advertising profits going back into the Niagara College Foundation. Rannie will include the college's special edition in seven of their weekly papers the week before Niagara College's April 5 open house to officially celebrate 25 years.

Sports

Penn State sticks it to the Knights

Knights hockey team record 0-2-1 against Pennsylvania rivals

BY SHANNON STRANGES
Staff Writer

After being blown out by the Penn State Icers twice before, the Niagara College Knights played like they were on a mission - to not let the visitors go home with another victory.

Last Saturday, the Knights came out hitting and played one of their best games of the season as they tied the Icers 5-5 in overtime.

The Knights were on the scoreboard first as Kent Loach scored a power-play goal after a pass from Andrew Clark. One minute after Loach's goal, Trevor Atkins combined with Rob Hoath on another power play to put the Knights ahead 2-0.

The Icers responded with a power-play goal of their own after Knights' winger, Mike Dakin was assessed a penalty for cross-checking.

Jason Disher scored first for the Knights in the second period. Both Jim Thorpe and Tom Landry assisted on the play to put the Knights ahead, 3-1.

Two Icers' goals in the second period tied the game at 3-3.

Rob Lebedick scored the fourth Knights goal on a Clark pass to give the home team a brief lead. The Icers responded with two more goals and took the lead with just 2:58 left in the game. With 1:15 left to go, Hoath, on a Rick Ryan and Thorpe pass, scored the tieing goal for the Knights.

The first overtime game of the season for both teams saw no scoring.

Icers' coach, Joe Battista, felt both teams played well, especially Knights goalie, Rob Wylde. Although his team was missing its two scoring leaders due to injury and illness, he said his team did good job in coming back to tie the game.

Fred Bassi, coach of the Knights, said his team played "excellent" and that the Knights had "the edge in the game most of the time."

On Friday, the Knights played poorly against Penn State. The Icers found a weakness in Knights goalie Mike Ticknovich and exploited that weakness to a 10-3 blowout.

Knights' right winger Ryan scored the first goal of the period at 16:37 on a Thorpe and Disher pass. The Icers responded with two goals, including one on a power play.

Brad Russell,(13) of the Penn State Icers, raises his stick in celebration as the Pennsylvania vistors once again scored on the home team. Niagara Knights' goalie Mike Ticknovich tries to scoop the puck out of the net behind him. The Knights and the Icers tied the game 5-5 in the first overtime game of the season for both teams, giving the Knights a 4-4-1 seasonal record. Tomorrow night, the Knights take on the area's high school all stars in the Welland Arena at 8 p.m.

Photo by Shannon Stranges

In the second period, the Knights got 10 shots on goal without scoring. The Icers, however, scored four times on 18 shots. They left the period leading the game, 6-1.

Penalties in the second period almost tripled from the first. The first period saw only 10 minutes in penalties for both teams as compared to 28 minutes in the second and 38 in the third.

Sean Wallington scored the second Knights goal at 12:34 of the third period. Assisting on the play were Brian Neilson and Clark.

The third goal for the Knights came with just four seconds left in the period. Hoath, a returning player from last year's winning team, assisted on the Mike Duerden power-play goal.

The Icers, whose shots on goal doubled that of the Knights, netted four more goals in the period to give them a 10-3 win.

Icers coach Battista said his team played so well because they were "fired up" after losing 7-6 in overtime to Erie Community College.

Meanwhile, on Jan. 8, the Knights travelled to Conestoga College in Kitchener and beat the Condors, 8-6.

Thorpe scored first for the Knights at 13:22 on a Ryan and John Savarie pass. Neilson was unassisted at 11:04 when he scored to give the Knights a 2-1 lead at the end of the period.

At 15:04 of the second period, Cam Houle scored the third Knights goal from Neilson.

Neilson's third point of the night came at 8:55 on his goal from Thorpe and Ryan. With 3:28 left to play in the third period, Clark scored from Loach and Duerden. After two periods, the Knights were winning, 5-2.

The Condors started a comeback in the third period. After Disher scored the Knights' sixth goal of the game, the Condors scored three goals in three minutes. Ryan netted his first of two goals on the night with 5:44 remaining. At the 17 minute mark, he again scored to keep the Knights' lead, 8-6. Assists were given to Landry, Thorpe and Disher.

In other action, on Dec. 11, the Knights were defeated 12-8 by Erie Community College Kats, of Orchard Park, N.Y.

During the first period, the Knights had only 10 shots on goal and received their only goal from Dakin.

In the second period, the Ryan-Disher-Thorpe line combined for seven points. Wallington assisted on two goals while Landry assisted on one.

The third period saw the starting goalie, Wylde, pulled and backup Ticknovich put in. Wylde had faced 33 shots over two periods allowing nine goals.

Simon Wayda scored at 11:36 of the third period from Loach and Clark.

With 1:07 remaining in the game, and the Knights losing 11-8, coach Bassi pulled Ticknovich from goal.

With 30 seconds left in the game, Thorpe scored the seventh Knight goal from Ryan and Wallington. Eleven seconds later, Duerden scored the final Knight goal from Savarie.

The comeback came too little too late as the Kats scored an empty net goal to finish off the game 12-8.

On Friday, Dec. 7, the Knights bombed the Buffalo State hockey team, 8-3.

The line of Disher, Thorpe, and Ryan combined for five points on the night.

The Knights' record is 4-4-1. Their next home game is against a team of high school all-stars from the area on Saturday at the Welland Arena.

Knights soccer team wins B division, go down in defeat in two playoff games

The rookie-filled Niagara College soccer team surprised many alike by capturing first place in the Mens B Division league before the Christmas break with a 6-1-3 record. But injuries to key players added unwanted pressure and the Knights quickly bowed out in the playoffs in two games.

A loss to fourth-place Express Dec. 17 in the first game of the post-season play placed the Knights in a position where a victory by three goals was needed to progress to the semi-finals Jan. 14 at the Welland Indoor Soccer Dome.

Niagara fell victim to sixth-place Bosna in the second game by a score of 2-1. After falling behind 1-0, Remo Ianiero scored Niagara's only goal of the match.

Niagara's Jim Thorpe and Joe Abbruscato were flawless on defence and goaltender Adam Thomas was equally impressive, but injuries to players Dan Giancola, Frank Serra, Len Camelino, Barry Chester, Dexter Jones, and Cory Van Dongen forced Niagara to double shift for most of the night. The pressure to win by three goals was apparent throughout the game as numerous offensive chances continuously hit the Bosna goal posts.

The team has asked the college for more funding to continue play for the second half of the season. The fate of the squad will be known this week.

Feb. 1 and 2 will see Niagara travel to Kingston for the St. Lawrence College Invitational. Niagara will face other colleges in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association. Various Kingston league soccer teams will be added to the tournament if there is not an adequate number of OCAA teams participating.

Correction

On page 15 of the Dec. 6, 1991 Niagara News in the story on the athletic budget, it was reported the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association soccer finals will be held at Conestoga College in Kitchener. The actual location site will be Cambrian College in Sudbury. We regret any inconvenience we may have caused by this error.

Niagara College cyclist among top in Canada

Darren O'Neal aiming for the Olympics

By SHANNON STRANGES
Staff Writer

Steve Bauer and Greg LeMond are two of the best cyclists in the world. Bauer, the local boy from Fenwick, won a silver medal in the 1984 Olympics, and LeMond has won the Tour de France three times. This is all in the past. The future of cycling is here.

Cycling's future rests on the handlebars of 19-year-old superstar Darren O'Neal, a Niagara College student in the General College program.

Darren has been cycling since 1985 but didn't start racing until 1987. He got involved after watching his older brother Jay cycle.

Darren rides for the Fonthill Lumber team. The team, sponsored by owner Paul Nemy, is made up of six men from across Canada. Besides Darren, local talent includes John Lamont, St. Catharines; Dan Lefebvre, Ridgeville; and Ezio Andreola, Fenwick. Walter Forsyth from Dartmouth, N.S. and Mark Orzel from Ottawa, Ont. round out the roster.

Since he began racing, Darren has won over 30 races along with many medals and trophies.

In 1988, Darren was the National Champion. He won the National Points Race which takes place on an oval track. After every five sprinted laps, points are accumulated to find a winner.

The next year became a disappointment as Darren caught mononucleosis and couldn't race.

In 1990's racing season he came back full force and won every provincial title available - the track, road race, criterium, and team time trial.

This year Darren turned senior which is the top category in Ontario. Competing against him are senior 2s, the next level below. As a senior 1, he has already won one race.

DARREN O'NEAL

He finished eighth in the provincial road race while competing against 25 year olds.

Next year, Darren will be entering the Olympic trials on May 21. The road races will be held in Hamilton, Ont. which, according to Darren, will be to his advantage. Because of the close location, he can eat and sleep at home. Another advantage is that the familiar to Darren.

Two years ago, Darren placed third in an international race. During the three-day-long competition, he cycled against members of the Dutch national team.

Darren admits that cycling is not an easy sport. The sport's season is six months long - April area's bumps and hills will be to September - however, the training involved is yearlong.

To be a cyclist one needs a great deal of stamina to endure the long distances. An average race for a cyclist could be as short as 100 km or as long as 200 km. The routes aren't always flat either, most are up and down hills.

The diet of a cyclist, like any other athlete, is important. Before a race, Darren said he will eat lots of carbohydrates and after the race a steak. While racing, Gatorade (a mineral-enriched beverage) is taken to replenish his energy. Even though Darren's favorite food is Mexican, he can't eat a lot of it due to its greasiness.

On the topic of drugs in sports, Darren is serious. While he said he would never take drugs, he acknowledged some cyclists do. One form of drug taking would be a sophisticated form of blood doping, E.P.O. Like other types of drugs, the results make the person recover faster from exertion and get ahead more quickly.

Darren's father, John, who works in the college's plant and property division, and his mother, Sharon, who works in payroll, both strongly support their son's ambitions. They bought Darren his first motocross bike for Christmas. On this bike, one of Darren's biggest memories was formed. On that day, Darren went out cycling and met Steve Bauer, Canada's premier cyclist. Since then, the two remain friends.

Some of us grow up dreaming to be a great athlete. Most of us will never fulfil that dream. Darren might not make it to the 1992 Olympics, but he will eventually reach the Olympian level. It will be then that Darren's dreams of one day being in the same league as Bauer and LeMond will be fulfilled.

Fundraiser to help cyclist

A stag and doe casino night will be held Jan. 17 at Club Richelieu to raise funds for Niagara College student and Olympic cycling hopeful Darren O'Neal.

Darren is training to gain a place on the Canadian cycling team for the 1992 Olympics. To meet high training expenses, college staff members decided to help Darren and his parents, Sharon and John O'Neal, with some of the costs.

Assisting with the event is the Sunburst Steel Band who will be donating their time. Club Richelieu, at 565 River Rd., Welland, is donating the hall for the event.

Tickets are available through Nancy Turpin's office, H6 in Hennepin Hall, and Veronica Merwitz's office, H9. Cost is $3 each. The Student Administrative Council office will also be selling tickets.

Sports schedule

HOCKEY — The over-powering Knights face area high school all stars Jan. 18 at Welland's Main Arena for an 8 p.m. start. Next league action of the Knights will be Jan. 25 when the University of Buffalo rolls into Welland at 8 p.m.

CURLING — The Niagara College curling team opens their season Sunday, Jan. 19 with the Georgian Invitational tournament at Georgian College in Barrie.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL — All remaining regular season games will be played on the road. Jan. 17 and 18 see Niagara in a cross-over tournament at St. Lawrence College, Kingston. Niagara travels to Redeemer College in Ancaster Jan. 22 for 6 p.m.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL — A successful Niagara squad will compete in a cross-over tournament Jan. 18 at Sir Sandford Fleming College in Peterborough. Redeemer College will be host to Niagara Jan.22 at 8 p.m. Niagara returns to be host to George Brown College the following night at 7:30 p.m. in the college gymnasium, Welland campus.

MEN'S BASKETBALL — Niagara's next two games will be home games against St. Lawrence College tonight and Jan. 22 against Redeemer College. Both games start at 7 p.m.

New cyclist book explores area bicycle trails

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

The year's first snowstorm obliterated biking trails, but die-hard cyclists can still buy Christine Whitlock's book, *Cycling in Halton, Hamilton-Wentworth, and Niagara Regions.*

Ms. Whitlock's inspiration came from her involvement in cycling and the outdoors. Her spouse, Dave Sanders, a triathlete, also inspired her to write the book by encouraging her to attend cycling meets, she said.

The author is a freelance writer who has written for *Today's Senior* and several business magazines. She also teaches two part-time courses at Mohawk College: How to Start a Small Business and Crafts as a Business.

Both Ms. Whitlock and Mr. Sanders belong to the Hamilton-Wentworth cross-country club where she spent a portion of two years researching the book, trying some of the prospective cycling routes. In addition to trying the suggested routes, Ms. Whitlock gathered routes from various municipalities' culture and recreation departments through parks and conservation authorities.

"Bicycling is not yet accepted as a form of transportation in North America," said Ms. Whitlock in a recent phone interview. "A bicycle is a non-polluting form of transportation...it uses human power as opposed to a natural non-renewable resource."

However, cycling is allowed in the Dundas Valley because the trails are municipally maintianed.

Municipalities are planning for the future with at least one or more cycling trails and accompanying maps. Three types of bike routes a municipality can plan include a bike path on the roads that follow traffic flow, a designated bike lane and a bike lane that is separated from traffic by a curb.

"Safety is an important feature of any cyclist's regime," said Ms. Whitlock. "The helmet especially is important because cyclists are not protected as they would be in a car and are, therefore, vulnerable to head injuries."

Ms. Whitlock stressed the use of either a reflective vest or reflective tape.

In keeping with the cyclist's outlook on ecology, Ms. Whitlock opted to have her own book printed on recycled paper. "The book is easy to carry and can be placed in a back or fanny pack for easy reference. It has a long shelf life."

The book sells for $5.95 plus GST and PST and can be purchased in Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland. The book is also available at Dearborn Outfitting in St. Catharines and Thornton Cycle in Welland. The book may be mail ordered for $10, which includes postage and handling, from C.J.Productions, P.O. Box 3533, Station C, Hamilton, Ont. L8H 7M9.

Ms. Whitlock is planning, in February of 1992, a series of cycling route books encompassing Southern Ontario.

She will present a seminar on cycling March 10, 1992 at Burlington Public Library. In April, she said she hopes to present seminars for beginner cyclists and introduction to competitive cycling.

Cyclists are generally interested in environmental conservation and preservation, said Ms. Whitlock. They understand why the Bruce Trail and Royal Botanical Gardens in the Niagara Regions don't allow cyclists on their paths. "Bikes, especially mountain bikes, can tear up the trails on muddy days and because there is no trail maintenance for bikes there is no bike riding allowed," she said.

Old timers play hockey for the Cancer Society

If you remember when the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Buffalo Sabres were winning hockey teams, then Thursday, Jan. 30 is a day you shouldn't miss.

Thursday night at 7:30 former hockey allstars from the Buffalo Sabres and the Toronto Maple Leafs are playing a charity game with proceeds going to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Former Sabres players include Danny Gare, Fred Stanfield, Jim Schoenfield, and Don Luce. Gilbert Perrault, Sabre great, has yet to be confirmed as playing.

The Toronto Orion Oldtimers will be comprised of Bill Derlago, Norm Ullman, and Leaf great, Darryl Sittler.

Tickets can be purchased at any Bank of Montreal branch in the Niagara region; the Parkway Suites, 3530 Schmon Parkway, Thorold; the Parkway Lanes, 325 Ontario St., St. Catharines; and at the Cancer Society office at 112 Queenston St., St. Catharines.

Prices for the tickets are $8 for adults and $6 for children under age 13. Seats will be general admission.

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

Christine Whitlock's cycling book, *Cycling in Halton, Hamilton-Wentworth and Niagara Regions,* is a compact, easy-to-carry book printed on recycled paper. Included with the 30 cycling routes are tips on cycling and first aid.

The cycling routes are comprised of hand drawn and typed maps. All the routes indicate the distance of the trails, although some are more specific than others. A few of the routes include difficulty levels and note rest stops or refreshment areas.

The first aid tips are handy for easy reference while on the trails and a long way from a hospital.

It's evident a lot of research went into the book's making. Future books should, however, include more information for all routes, such as the levels of difficulty and if there are any rest and refreshment places.

This 52-page book, published by C. J. Productions, retails for $5.95 plus GST and PST. The book may be mail ordered for $10, which includes shipping and handling.

The book is available at Coles stores in Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland. It is sold at Thornton Cycle in Welland and Dearborn Outfitting in St. Catharines.

Marc Lesage,(54) of the Cambrain Golden Shields tries to outmanoeuvre Niagara Knights' Merv Wrighton. The men's basketball team defeated the Cambrian team 87-71. Niagara's next home games are tonight against St. Lawrence and on wednesday, Jan. 22 against Redeemer. Both games are at 7 p.m. in the Welland campus gym.

Photo by Shannon Stranges

Knights shield attack

The Cambrian Golden Shield recently fell victim to the Niagara Knights men's basketball team's scoring duo of Paul Weller and Paul Grummett.

On Friday, Jan. 10, the northern visitors were defeated 87-71 by the Knights.

Weller netted a team high 27 points with 16 coming in the first half. Another hot shooter was Grummett whose 18 points gave him the second highest point total.

Scott Currie and Rick Sinclair also proved to be unstoppable with 14 and 13 points for the Knights respectively.

Other Knight scorers included Brady Fitzgerald with seven points, Merv Wrighton with six points and Pat Inneo with two points.

The next home game for the Knights is tonight.

Weight room facilities and restricted hours cause havoc

Faculty unhappy

By KARI CHWIECZAK
Staff Writer

Physical fitness is a priority in the 1990s for a healthy lifestyle, and weight lifting is an essential way to maintain a strong body.

Students and faculty at Niagara College are concerned with the lack of available time to use the weight room facilities, located in the mezzanine above the college gym at the Welland campus.

Last year, the room was located elsewhere in the Mackenzie building, but some programs have moved into the building and space requirements forced the college to relocate the facilities.

Law and Security Administration and Ambulance and Emergency Care programs require a large amount of time in the weight room as a prerequisite for their physical fitness programs. Free time in this room is scheduled around the classes, presenting a variety of problems.

When working out, users of the equipment must keep quiet as to avoid disturbing gym classes.

Another drawback is lack of water taps. The closest water fountain is located downstairs in the main hallway where one has to walk to the student areas dressed in gym clothes.

"It's crazy not to have appropriate water facilities in a weight room because it's totally necessary," Ken Eller, business software instructor, said. "That means a lack of privacy too, because some people are self-conscious about their appearance in their work-out gear."

There are no fans either, creating unwanted hot air in the area from the classes. The change rooms, including lockers and showers, are also in a state of disrepair.

The quality of the equipment is another problem, although two new step-up machines have been added. Mr. Eller said free weights and barbells are also needed in the room.

Peter Rylander, Niagara College athletic co-ordinator, said free weights were available at one time to students, but they disappeared.

"We don't have the money in our budget to hire security people to keep an eye on those kind of weights to make sure they aren't stolen again," Mr. Rylander said.

Funding for possible improvements would come from Student Council Administration.

"It's not fair to go to SAC for all the funding, especially since not every student plays sports or uses the weights," Mr. Eller said. "If anything, the college should allocate the proper funds for improvements."

A possible solution to this problem may be a screen or curtain to separate the classes from the weight facilities. Mr. Rylander has approached the college administration about a curtain on three occasions, and one was delivered to the athletic department prior to the Christmas break, and will possibly be installed later this week.

But these setbacks have frustrated students and faculty. Most instructors are now using other facilities, such as those at Brock University, YMCA in Welland and Galaxy 2000 in Welland. The cost for these memberships comes out of their own pockets.

Over 200 Niagara students have signed a petition asking for access to the facilities at all times. This petition was brought to student services.

Bette Ferguson, director of Student Services, said little can be done at the moment to change the availability of the room because of classes.

"I'm very angry," Mr. Eller said. "We need to show the students here that physical fitness is of vital importance, but with the restricted times, we can't even encourage fitness outside the classroom."

One-on-one work essential for ERSN

Second-year educational resources and special needs students do one-to-one work with elementary students or college students with special needs as part of their program. The sessions are held twice weekly and each session is 40 minutes. Currently, there are 10 second-year students working with college students.

Pat Frank, a program instructor, said the focus on adults instead of on elementary students has developed during the past five years.

"We started on the college vocational," she said. "The first year it just seemed to be the perfect match. And then we added Ontario Basic Skills (OBS). My students would go to OBS and work with one of their students. English as a Second Language was last year's focus and also a pilot project for the Welland Association for Community Living and the college vocational program was added."

Mrs. Frank said the students are responsible for doing all the planning. This includes a work plan, where they must decide objectives for each session, what materials they'll need, how they'll go about doing the session, and an evaluation when the session is finished.

Brigitta Verbraeken, a second-year student, is working with a student who is in the English as a Second Language program. Ms. Verbraeken said the person she assists wants to learn English and then get her college or university education in order to return to her native country and get employment.

"We're working very heavily on the conversational skills because they get a lot of academic skills and writing in the classroom," she said, "but the teacher obviously doesn't have time to sit, converse and help her with all the specifics of pronunciation. I'm concentrating on the actual speaking." Ms. Verbraeken said the first six weeks of second year were very intense training for the sessions.

"Everything we did last year has prepared us and it's really nice to be able to use everything we learned last year," she said.

Colleen Swords, a second-year student, works with a student who needs help with math skills. Ms. Swords said that learners are tested in the first two sessions so the tests can be reviewed and find where a student might need assistance. Ms. Swords uses a work sheet as part of her teaching technique.

"I never thought I would use a work sheet," she said. She added that although it is early in the year she has already seen some progress. Sheila Ferguson, also a second-year student, worked as a volunteer with a student last year.

"It was a student who had been identified as having special needs who had come into a program that she had failed at before," she said. "She was certainly able to do the academics but had a hard time decoding or reading the information and turning it out on exam papers. She knew it all; she could tell you everything verbally. I worked with her learning strategies as opposed to just teaching what was in the book and she did very well. She went from failing to a 73 average. This year I'm again working with a special needs student."

The volunteer work began for second-year students in the middle of October and will continue until April.

Christmas layoff evident as men's volleyball team loses

A Christmas vacation was not the greatest gift the Niagara College men's volleyball team could have received. The three-week layoff was evident as the team lost to three of four teams at the Mohawk invitational last Saturday.

Niagara competed at the invitational where they faced stiff competition from the University of Guelph, University of Windsor, Humber College and Redeemer College.

Guelph, Windsor and Humber were successful in dominating Niagara in close games, but the Knights defeated Redeemer in two straight games.

"This invitational was just practice to get sharp for the remainder of the season," said Niagara coach Ray Sarkis.

Niagara captain Todd Johnston and Fernando Colavecchia led the Knights offensively in the tournament.

Niagara remains in first place heading in to this weekend's tournament at Sir Sanford Fleming College in Peterborough.

"We could lose contention this weekend if we don't win our games,"Sarkis said. Niagara will face Sir Sanford Fleming, Algonquin and St. Lawrence colleges in the tournament.

The next home game for Niagara is Jan. 23 against George Brown College. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Niagara hockey Old Timers reunite, curling season begins

On Saturday, Jan. 18, the Niagara College Old Timers will be facing off against the Brock Old Timers in a benefit game for Welland Community Living.

The team, made up of staff members from both schools, will be facing off for the third time this year. The Old Timers are 1-1 against the Brock staff.

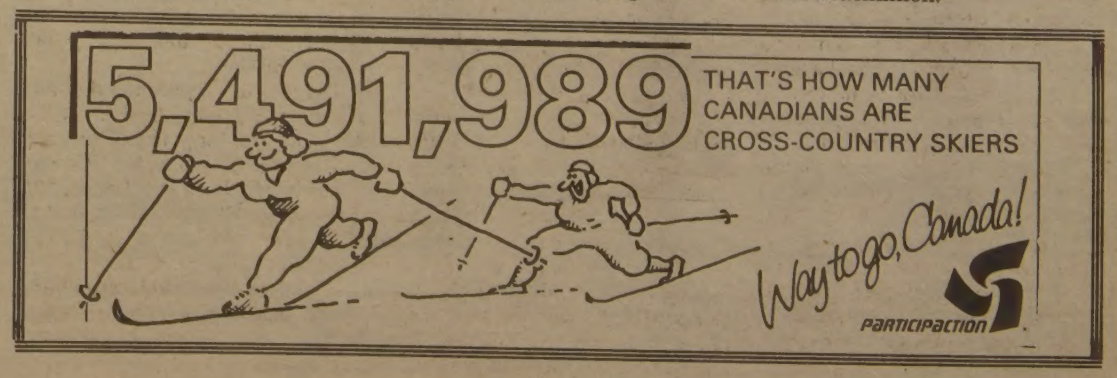
Game time is 7 p.m. in the Welland Arena, 501 King St. The $2 tickets can be purchased from any member of the hockey team or coach Fred Bassi.

Niagara College personnel and their spouses will again be playing curling on a weekly basis. Starting Jan. 14, for eight or nine weeks, the teans will curl in the Welland Curling Club, 497 King St.

The $10 weekly fee includes ice rental, snacks and a prize pool or banquet.

Equipment for curlers includes clean running shoes and kilts or slacks.

The September to December curling team winners was the team of Emel Knebel, Donna Cunningham, Larry Cote, and Carol Ann Mackinnon.



Great taste, less filling, low cost

Niagara's brewing beer

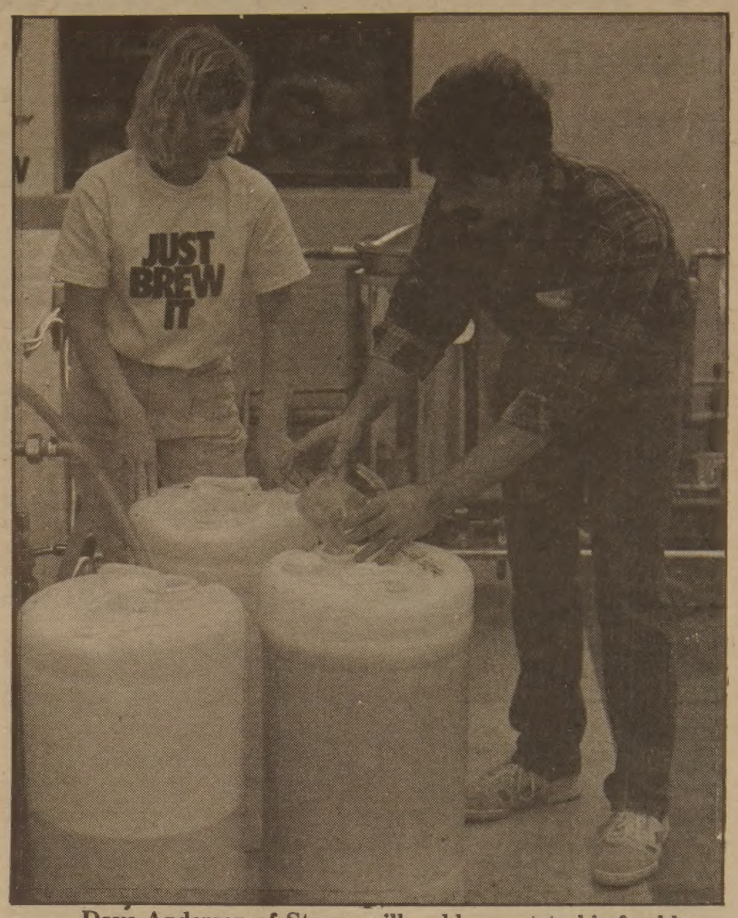
By BARON BEDESKY
Staff Writer

Wake up residents of Niagara.

Facilities are available in which beer can be brewed cheaply, to the taste and specifications preferred, with no mess, all in very little time.

August of 1991 was a landmark month for St. Catharines. Within two weeks, three separate "brew it yourself" businesses opened in the city, each striving to cater to consumers who were frustrated with their lack of options when it came time to purchasing their favorite beverage.

You no longer have to pay exoribant prices for beer at Brewers' Retail locations or the local tavern. Nor must you endure long lines at the border and hassles from customs officials for an inferior product.



Dave Anderson of Stevensville adds yeast to his freshly prepared batch of beer as Just Brew It co-owner Sharon Jones looks on. The beer will be ready for consumption in approximately two weeks.

Photo by Baron Bedesky

Recipes

In a two-step process consisting of approximately two one-hour visits, customers can choose from a number of different recipes, and then produce and bottle their own batch of beer. The cost per batch (not including bottles) ranges from $79 to $95 depending on the recipe. All three of the brewing facilities have a minimum order of one batch, a batch consisting of six cases. Because the customer brews their own beer, there is significantly less applicable tax resulting in the lower cost.

It may have taken a little time but these brewing facilities are an exellent example of how the Niagara Region is slowly responding to the economic threat of cross-border shopping.

Larry Blanchfield, president of Custom Brew Beer Systems located on Bunting Road in the Garden City, describes his business as anti-inflationary. Referring to his customers' product as "Canadian beer at American prices", he said about 80 per cent of his clientele were buying American beer before brewing their own.

By remaining on this side of the border to purchase their beer, Blanchfield said the whole community benefits because these customers may be more apt to buy their gas and groceries here as well.

Brothers

Brothers Lino and Diano DiFelice are owners of Vin Bon Niagara on Glendale Avenue, a store which since 1983 has served those who enjoy wine-making and brewing their own beer at home. About five months ago, they opened a second Glendlae Avenue location specifically aimed at brewing your own beer.

Diano DeFelice said they average about 15 customers daily, with up to 30 beer-making enthusiasts passing through his doors on a busy day. "We eliminate the bulk of the work for the customer. People like the fun of making it," he said, adding one of the keys to its growing popularity is in the simplicity of the process. DiFelice said many of his customers come in after completing their shift at General Motors located just down the street.

Phil Jones, co-owner of Just Brew It also located on Bunting Road, said Canada has the third highest tax on beer in the world, behind only Ireland and Norway. He agrees brewing one's own beer is as entertaining as it is economical. "There's more to it than price. People enjoy the social aspects of it." Doing things with one's hands is one of the growing trends of the 90's, he said.

Blanchfield agrees. "I've been in a number of businesses before and I've never seen a business where people are happy to give me $80. The atmosphere is always pleasant. It makes it a pleasure to be in business."

Jones' was the first of the three businesses to open to the public back on Aug. 6, 1991. He is in a partnership together with his wife Sharon, and longtime friend Al Vaughan. Vaughan and Jones have known each other for more than 20 years and in fact, attended high school together.

The concept for their store name "Just Brew It" is partly a play on words from the famous athletic shoe slogan "Just Do It." Jones said the business name implies a challenge or dare, yet remains inviting with the word "Just" implying simplicity.

Much like Blanchfield, and despite many 14-hour work days, Jones said he enjoys his work. "I'm pleasantly surprised at people's knowledge of brewing beer. I thought people would be more skeptical about it (but) business has virtually exploded."

Anyone interested in brewing their own beer is encouraged to contact either of these brewing facilities about any details. Vin Bon, for example, offers more than 60 different beer recipes including dark British style beers to recipes that rival the taste of one's favorite domestic brand. Daring individuals may want to brew up some "Szechuan Suicide", described as "a superb chili beer for spicy food fans. Drink cold for flavor . . . warmer for afterburn!" Or how about "Fallen Angel" with an alcohol content of 8.5 per cent.

Instructions

After a customer decides which recipe they want to try, they are given complete instructions as to how to mix it. Ingredients include water, malt, glucose, different grains such as corn, rice, or roast barley, and hops. The mix is brought to a boil in a large steel kettle and then cooled and transferred into plastic storage kegs where the yeast is added for fermentation. The keg is then stored at slightly below room temperature for about one week, followed by approximately one more week in cold storage for the aging process. The customer then returns to filter, carbonate and bottle their beer before bringing it home.

The end result is a beer with no artificial preservatives or additives. Many of the customers sing praises of the cleaner taste and some even claim they suffer from fewer of the well-known after effects the following day. The beer has a shelf life ranging from two to six months depending on the alcohol content and conditions it is stored under. Keeping the beer in cooler temperatures and out of light ensures that it will not spoil prematurely.

Fast Facts:
Custom Brew, 249 Bunting Rd., St. Catharines, 988-5565; Open Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Just Brew It, 286 Bunting Rd., St. Catharines, 688-BREW; Open Monday-Friday noon to 9 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Vin Bon, 411 Glendale Ave., St. Catharines, 277-9556; Open Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Diano DiFelice, co-owner of the Vin Bon brewing facility on Glendale Avenue in St. Catharines, demonstrates the stirring process, an essential part of preparing one's own beer.

Photo by Baron Bedesky

Larry Blanchfield, president of the Custom Brew outlet in St. Catharines, shows off some of the equipment used in the beer making process.

Photo by Baron Bedesky

Auction successful

By LYNN DRAPEAU
Staff Writer

"Do I hear $420? $420? Fair warning. Single bidder." The gavel came down with a reverberating slam. "Sold for $410."

Patricia Granville, international auctioneer, has worked nine of the 13 annual YMCA auction fundraisers. In this auction, Ms. Granville walked the viewers and participants through the event, coaxing and prodding for just one more bid.

Held in the Black Walnut building, the fund-raiser, an art auction selling art ranging from $175 pen and ink drawings to $5,900 signed oil paintings, raised a total of about $20,000. Profits dropped a staggering 30 per cent from last year's earnings. "We weren't surprised," Brad Clements, executive director of Welland YMCA, said. Because of the trying times and difficult economy, "We felt we did reasonably well."

Of the $20,000 raised, the YMCA received 25 per cent of the art sales proceeds and about 19 per cent on donated pieces. "So it's a fund-raiser for us," Irene Hine, chairperson of the Art Auction Committee, said. The YMCA received about $5,000 toward the capital expansion fund's marketing study. The marketing project began Oct. 1, 1991 and has a projected completion of March 31, 1992, Mr. Clements said.

The bidding on the art begins below the gallery price and never rises above it. People usually pay only three-quarters of the art's worth, "So it's a bargain," for the people, Mrs. Hine said.

At this year's event, the chosen guest artist was John Petrella, 32, who specializes in landscape and wildlife. Emigrating from Avazzano, Italy in 1974, the Niagara Falls resident travels North America in search of wildlife in their natural environment. He takes photos of them, capturing his subjects, and returns to his home studio where he recreates the "flavor of the outdoors by compiling mini-wildlife documentaries." These are used as reference material for his oil paintings.

As for the auction, "I really don't get anything out of this," Mr. Petrella said. "It's for a good cause."